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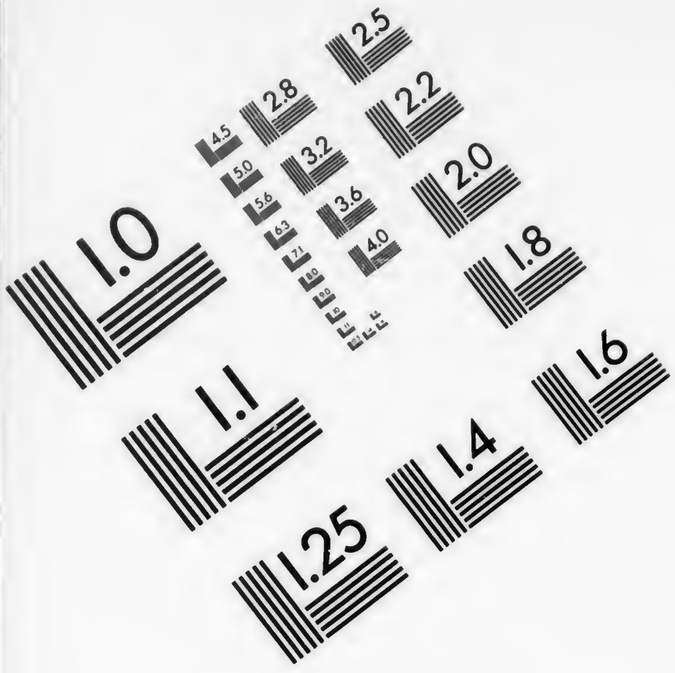

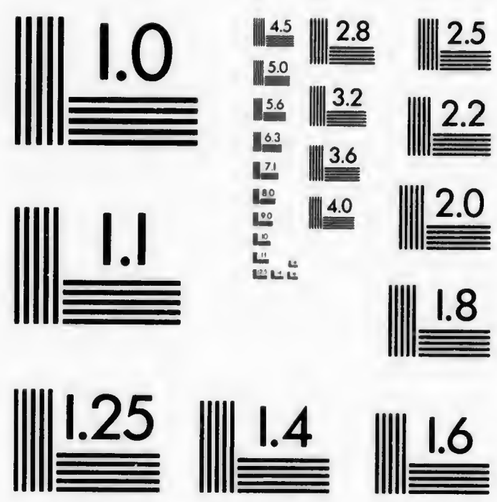

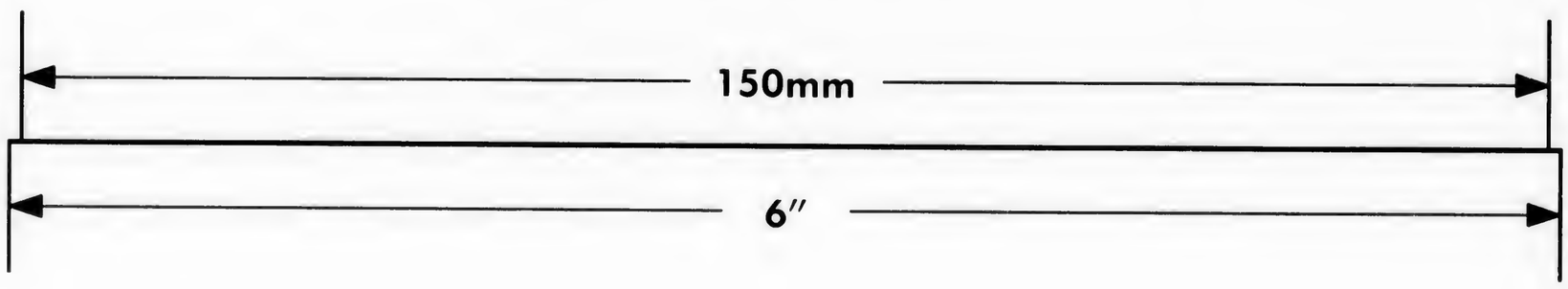

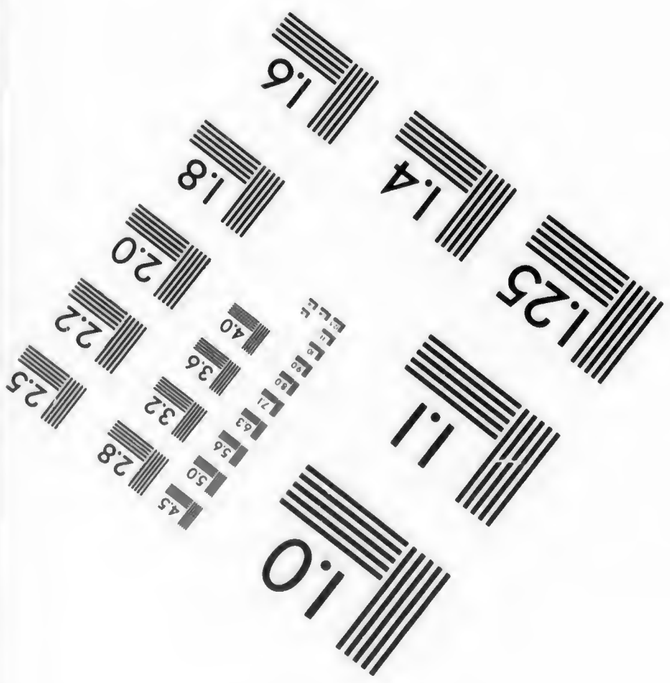

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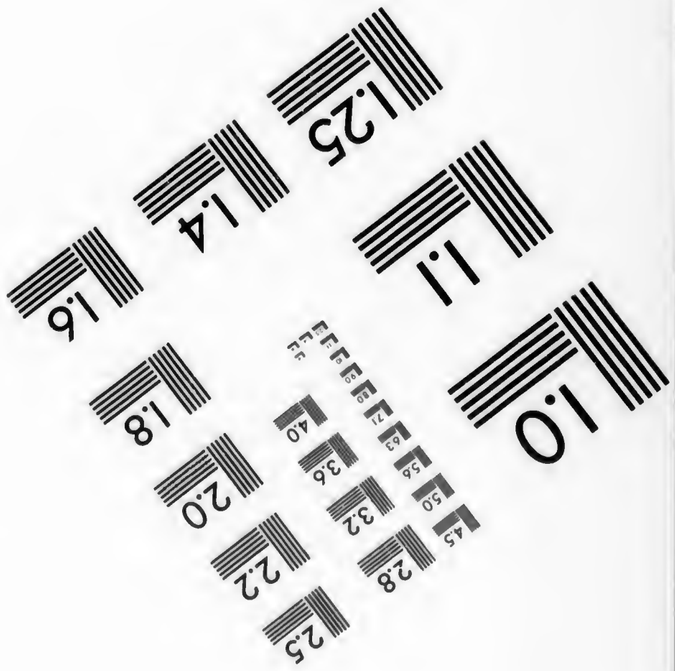

Volume:

22

14

The GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

Sock 'im Before He Strikes!

With the rationing of gasoline and fuel oils, the ghostly spectre of the bootlegger may be just around the corner. You can help prevent it.

Farmers will be assured of ample supplies of fuels for tractors and trucks used in agricultural production and transportation. There is absolutely no excuse for even the slightest intent to "chisel."

The majority of farm people are patriotic, law-abiding, honest, and trustworthy. Should there be a few scoundrels scattered about who would sabotage our national effort by joining forces with the "gyps", the "slickers", the gas bootleggers in city or town, YOU can help whip these modern horsethieves.

1. Guard your ration book and its coupons.
2. Keep your gasoline and tractor fuel locked up.
3. Sell no gasoline to anyone.
4. If someone in your neighborhood is illegally hoarding or selling, report this to your local rationing board.

JANUARY — 1945

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THE GUIDE POST

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THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Volume XXII **January, 1945** **Number 1**

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Briefly Summarized for Those Unable to Attend

This is written especially for the readers of the Guide Post who were unable to attend the meetings of the Annual Potato Conference.

The meetings were extraordinarily well attended. The banquet, as usual, was a sell-out.

The speakers were keyed to a high pitch.

The audiences were attentive and received the bombardment with nary a batting eye—very few slept.

Yes, Potato Philosopher, John Schrope was the first to arrive, and he was right there at the end. It was indeed a grand morale building wartime meeting.

A. L. Hacker, County Agent of Lehigh County, who has kept an eagle eye on Pennsylvania's Premier Potato County, told how production and soil fertility has been maintained for over a quarter of a century. A three- or four-year rotation with a legume preceding the potato-growing seems to do the trick.

Dr. O. D. Burke, Penn State, observed that there is still no substitute for 4-4-50 Bordeaux mixture—though many have been tested.

Ivan Miller, Erie County grower, observed on harvesting and storing that growers must learn to **handle** potatoes like apples and peaches—**gently.** They are not to be walked on.

A. C. Ramseyer, Ohio grower, observed that on **Basic Fertility** for his condition, the straw from a 30-bushel yield of wheat in which a good growth (which he gets) of mixed sweet, alsike, and red clover plowed down in a two-year rotation is ideal.

The session on **machinery and supplies** brought out that there will not be as much as anyone wants and only a few will actually get as much as they need. Trucks and truck tires will be especially acute.

Ed Gogolin, secretary of the Penn Motor Truck Association, certainly gave the entire convention something to think about, in the co-operative movement. The Pennsylvania Potato Growers and the Penn Motor Truck Association have more in common than few of us thought before this address. Mr. Gogolin ought to be a welcome visitor in the future.

Jacob K. Mast, director, speaking on **assembling** and **packing,** did not tell his famous story illustrating how this is done but he made it as simple as that and stated that there are many other places in Pennsylvania where a similar set-up to his is applicable. All it takes

is a wide-awake, energetic, cooperative-minded leader. Who's next?

H. T. Walsworth, A&P Tea Company, gave a thrilling account of **consumer acceptance** as applied to the Pennsylvania Blue Label Pack. We central growers regret in our selfish way that Mr. Walsworth is leaving Altoona. He certainly has been a friend to the cooperative marketing plan. We congratulate him on the other hand that his company advanced him even though he goes to Pittsburgh. He has our best wishes in his new field.

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

Thursday Evening

The evening's program centered about timely production problems involving planting, cultivating and spraying potatoes. The discussion was lead by Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Councilor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council. Those attending showed keen interest in three pictures illustrating **planter adjustments, cultivation refinements** and **spray pressure and nozzle adjustments** explained most effectively by Pennsylvania's Potato Wizard. Questions and answers flew thick and fast which attested to the fact that growers appreciated the timely, illustrated articles published in the Guide Post last spring but were still not quite certain of the **whys, wherefores,** and **hows.**

The Union Bag and Paper Company under the direction of Henry C. Stute presented a sound motion picture on the history of paper manufacture and modern methods and uses of paper and paper products. This picture was intensely interesting and impressive. The fact that paper, after all, is a farm product and one of the results of the Farm Chemurgic movement made the picture one not soon to be forgotten. One was struck with the largeness of paper manufacture and Uses. Kraft Paper made from quick growing pines from our own farms and used by farmers to market their products completes a most desirable cycle which is sharply opposed to burlap made of jute from India and Burma.

A second sound picture entitled "For Years to Come" was shown by representatives of the Soil Conservation Service. This was a practical portrayal of actual conservation practices on the family farm of Chris Musser of York County. Mr. Musser was in World War I and has the reputation for "Passing the Ammunition" to the famous Sgt. York. This picture was taken to Russia and China by Vice President Wallace to portray just what American farmers are doing in the way of soil conservation practices.

Friday

John A. Logan, President, National Association of Food Chains, Washington 6, D. C., said:

Farmers and all who distribute their products should work as a team to expand post-war food markets.

The farmer's natural instinct for abundant production should be harnessed with the demonstrated ingenuity of distributors to enlarge the dietary opportunity of all Americans. It is well that you enjoy a fine relationship with all types of distributors. You need every outlet for your production regardless of the name or sign on the store front.

We have a total farm plant capable of producing 25 to 50 per cent more food and fiber than our past domestic consumptive demand.

Hope diminishes daily for a sustained, profitable market abroad for any substantial volume of agricultural products. Yet, the balanced prosperity of our country demands that the agricultural economy of this country go forward on at least as prosperous a level as other industries.

We must, therefore, strive to avoid market demoralization due to surpluses. Producers, processors and distributors should also try to solve these problems themselves.

Carl F. Taeusch, Head, Division of Program, Study and Discussion, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington D.C., on the topic "Prosperity in Relation to Rural Life," observed:

The American farmer is geared to mass production, true enough; but even today only some farmers are so geared, probably one-third.

But the American farmer has shown, in the last eight years, that he is going in for more intensive farming. And that means that he is grossing more per acre at lower prices than he enjoyed in the other World War. To achieve this result, he is farming more intelligently and his labor and that of his hired hand are becoming increasingly efficient.

This means not only increased national farm income accruing to a relatively few farmers, but increased earnings per acre mean that the smaller farms of this country can increase and probably have increased their earnings appreciably.

There is no greater pool of inadequately used labor than on our small farms where the unit is too small to farm efficiently. More intensive farming, with increasing yields, provides the best means for utilizing that manpower and making it self-supporting and self-respecting.

The American farmer is confronted with an organized economy geared to scarcity, true enough. But what shall he do about it? Can he make his voice heard and his vote felt, enough to jolt the business man out of an unsound economic principle? Should he fight fire with fire and again engage in restricted production? Certainly not until this war is won; for no major war has ever been fought without a resulting scarcity of almost everything, especially of food, and in the victorious country as well as in the vanquished.

The American farmer should plan for the post-war possibilities, and the economists are warning us that we shall again have over-production then. But if depressions are as much the result of under-consumption as of over-production, why not do some planning so as to encourage full consumption, the only way our mass production can be maintained on the farm as well as in our industrial cities?

Furthermore, to curtail production again is not going to be the relatively easy task it was before, when it could be achieved largely through a reduction in acreage. For the American farmer has recently learned intensive farming to such an extent that mere curtailment of acreage will result in abandoning the less productive acreage and raising still more on the better land. This is good farming practice, but it will not by itself solve the surplus problem.

Supplementary programs, especially of marketing quotas, will be necessary; and the American consumer may even demand price ceilings directly imposed on farm products. That is the alternative to opening up our foreign markets and keeping our industrial activity in full operation, so as to market our increasing farm production. Can't we make economic sense out of increased production, a scientific and technological achievement in which we all should take pride?

Prosperity is an international as well as a national problem; abundant farm production may contribute to our prosperity, but prosperity will not necessarily follow from abundant farm production. Prosperity can come only with the opening up of international trade channels in a world at peace.

The Potato Situation

Lee Rummel, Cincinnati, Kroger Grocer and Baking Co.

It is significant that the average American, especially the woman, has been eating fewer potatoes one decade after another. This trend is true of no other major horticultural product except apples.

There has been an erroneous impression that potatoes, being starchy, are fattening, and thus far the publicity on nutrition to the contrary has not jarred the masses from that idea.

We simply must recognize these facts:

1. Americans eat fewer potatoes today than they did 25 years ago. (173 vs. 124 pounds.)

2. The per capita consumption has declined two pounds annually on an average in this period.

3. Consumption of other fresh vegetables has stepped up in this period almost that identical figure. (190 vs. 240 pounds.)

4. Consumption of canned vegetables doubled. Opening a tin can is easier than paring potatoes.

5. The lessons of nutrition for green, leafy, and yellow vegetables have been felt in changing the American diet—at the sacrifice of potatoes.

However, this need not be all gloom. The retreat can be halted, and it is possible to put potatoes back on the march offensively, to gain new territory.

There is no question that graded product, with attractive consumer packages, 10 or 15 pounds, paper or mesh bags, sells potatoes. That kind of merchandise ought to make you more money as producers.

The food store of tomorrow will be a super market with more self-service. It will handle consumer packages more. The only product to put in that little bag is U. S. No. 1 merchandise. That is the first essential to get milady back on a potato diet, eating 175 to 200 pounds annually, as her mother did.

Educational Service

B. A. Rockwell

Given farms and farmers with equal production power, the one who sells best will have the best success. The work of farming is only half done when the crop is harvested. Sometimes, the biggest half is to realize a profit out of the crop. This branch of the farm business needs improvement; this merchant side of farming needs development.

Inadequate distribution causes most of the economic ills among the farmers and, perhaps, world conditions today. Perhaps the distribution of abundance, rather than the subsidizing of scarcity, will be the answer.

Under-consumption has been the black plague of the 20th century. The U. S. Department of Agriculture admits that 45,000,000 people in this country, in normal times, are undernourished. One-third of the rejections in the present draft were due to dietary deficiencies and yet we lived in the land of surplus foodstuffs.

Through co-operative marketing of farm produce, a consumer's price will be established so that the consumer can afford to buy more and create a greater demand. The farmer will receive more of the consumer's dollar which will encourage him to produce more to meet a greater consumer demand. Greater production, to supply greater demand, will bring about better general prosperity.

Recognize 1944 Champion Grower

The association gave recognition to Fred S. Darr, Friedens, Somerset County, as the leading potato grower of 1944 with a production of 559.8 bushels per acre. He and eleven others were awarded medals and membership in the association's 400-Bushel Potato Club, established 25 years ago.

BUY

MORE BONDS

The Necessity of Organized Marketing for a Successful Agricultural Economy

Digest of Talk by John A. Logan, President National Association of Food Chains, at Second Cooperative-Business Conference and Dinner, Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1945, Sponsored by Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative Ass'n, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Ass'n, and Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

I am honored to be in this distinguished company of progressive, leading farmers, enterprising distributors, and high government officials. I confess that I feel humble among so many producers who have earned the distinction of membership in the 400-Bushel Club. It is significant and encouraging that we gather here to discuss our mutual interests and raise our sights to the future. I have been asked to talk on the subject of organized marketing.

Organized Marketing

What do we mean by organized marketing? You will agree, I believe, that it means an understanding of the respective interests and responsibilities of producers, processors, and distributors. It demands an understanding of the mutuality of our interests, and the interdependence of our activities. It demands efficiency and calls for recognition of the requirements of consumers.

Production Record

The program and progress of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association seems to have been developed for such a time as this. Of course, it was not probable that P. D. Frantz, Dr. Nixon and others could have foreseen the emergency that would demand 450-million-bushel potato crops for several years in succession—but the vision and hard work which brought the 400-Bushel Clubs into being merits the highest awards for wartime effort and achievement.

The Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Federation has in its membership not only potato growers, but dairy farmers, poultry producers, cattle and hog feeders, as well as many fruit and truck growers who lead in efficient production and marketing. This indicates good leadership provided by the Federation under Roland Benjamin's farsighted guidance.

Food Chain Pledge

When Germany invaded Poland over five years ago, many of the farmer's wartime problems were forseen by food chain executives. Food chain companies in all parts of the country then published a public pledge to producers, consumers and government which contained the following:

> "Food Chains will co-operate as in the past with agricultural producers in constructive efforts to maintain satisfactory markets for their products and will assist farmers to obtain their fair share of the national income."

Pledge Kept

How well has this pledge been kept? Today farmers are receiving the highest share of the final sale price of farm products since the United States Department of Agriculture began keeping those records. At the same time the people are eating more food than they ever ate before, per capita, and the cost of that abundance of food takes the smallest share of the consumer's income of any time on record.

Those are the purposes and objectives of organized marketing: to return to the farmer the largest possible share of the consumer's dollar and to serve the consumer efficiently and economically. We will all have plenty to do in the future as we have in the past.

Farmers Meet Wartime Challenge

Record crops of the war years provide a great tribute to farmers and their families. To produce to the limit of their ability is both a natural and national instinct among farmers. Farming is not only a means of livelihood—it is a way of life. It has always been characteristic of farmers to use to best possible advantage their labor, land and equipment every waking, working hour—so as not to lose any benefit of favorable weather. In wartime these principles have added significance. Farmers have accepted them as a challenge to their patriotism and devotion to the national interest.

We have, we are told, a total farm productive capacity of 25 to 50 per cent more food and fibre than our prewar domestic consumption. At the same time it appears we cannot plan for or depend upon a sustained, profitable market abroad for any substantial volume of agricultural products.

Consumer Demands

This, then, is a challenge to producers, to distributors, and to our ability to work together. And we will have another incentive to work together. Organized consumer activity is becoming more aggressive and will make itself felt to a larger degree in the food producing and distributing fields. Some of the more important objectives of the consumer groups are better commodity buying information; lower distribution cost and elimination of waste; more information on nutritive values.

Producer-Distributor Campaigns

Perhaps the experience we have had in recent years—particularly the years immediately preceding the war—may help producers and distributors to work together for their mutual benefit as well as for the benefit of consumers. I refer especially to special sales campaigns conducted by food distributors at request of producers to move seasonal surpluses to consumers. This agricultural program encourages continuous cooperation between producers and all types of distributors on day-to-day marketing problems. There are many such activities upon which we can work together that do not involve surpluses.

Several such campaigns have been conducted on potatoes produced in many sections of the country, including Pennsylvania. You here know of the excellent co-operation between the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association and the retail grocers of your state. You know of the campaigns to increase consumption when necessary and of the other efforts to improve marketing methods. You potato growers also know that each campaign resulted in more money in your pockets because it sold more potatoes, it kept potatoes from going to waste, it tended to stabilize prices and sometimes increased them. That is the way these surplus promotion campaigns work. They show consumers how they can improve their meals at a saving. This increases consumption. Then the law of supply and demand helps the producer's market. It is as simple as that!! There have been over 250 of such campaigns conducted by producers and food chains during the past eight years, covering more than 65 farm products. Many of these campaigns were national in scope, some were regional, like your Pennsylvania potato campaigns, and some were local—like surplus spinach around Boston.

All Grocers Participate

There are more than 150 food chain companies co-operating in this program, operating a total of approximately 25,000 stores. They are located in every state of the union.

This is a realistic program. It is not charitable in nature. It is founded on the sound principle of enlightened selfishness. The program is in no sense limited to chain stores. One of the first recommendations of chains was that producer groups seek aid of all grocers of all types and sizes. Many organized groups of grocers like those in Pennsylvania have rendered great and invaluable services to producers.

Human Relationship

In the course of these remarks reference has been made to producer organizations, processors, food chains and other retail groups. But let us not get the wrong impression. Farmers are *people* —not organizations. Food chain operators are *people*, not organizations. And so with the other groups. This is a *human* relationship. Two men or a group of men sit down to talk over their problems. Whoever heard of an organization entering a room? The organizations are simply the tools used to carry out the decisions that folks make. In that capacity, they are a necessity and are invaluable.

Production and Distribution One Process

It is our observation, as we are sure it is yours, that production and marketing are both part of the same operation. Both functions must be efficient if the requirements of consumers are to be satisfied—and both production and marketing have as their ultimate objective the satisfying of these demands. The consumer, finally, is the boss. Organized marketing should begin even before production is begun and you here in Pennsylvania have demonstrated your understanding of these problems by the manner in which you have planned your production, improved and standardized quality, and processed and packaged your products for distribution.

Continued on page seventeen

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

J. A. DONALDSON
An Outstanding Grower—
Business-Man—Cooperator

THE NEW PRESIDENT

"J. A." or "Archie" has been a most faithful guiding hand in the affairs of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association since its beginning. He has represented the west central potato growers for nine consecutive years, three of which were in the capacity of vice president and two (1940 and 1941) as a most efficient and capable president. Mr. Donaldson's experiences easily qualify him for the responsible position of president of this ever growing potato growers cooperative. He is Justice of Peace, a member of the Farm Credit Association, a member of his county's War Board, an active Granger, a community worker, successful machinery dealer and most of all a very successful potato grower. In spite of the war's many handicaps he has managed to produce efficiently 100 acres of potatoes annually. His fair, keen business dealings has given him an enviable reputation which will stand in good stead as head of our Cooperative Association.

Our 1945 Officers and Directors

Three directors representing the western, central and eastern areas of Pennsylvania are elected by the membership each year to serve their areas for a period of three years. Messrs Lester J. Lohr, M. P. Whitenight and J. K. Mast were nominated and elected unanimously. The following constitutes the Board of Directors for 1945:

Director	County	Term
Western Area		
F. L. Dodd, Columbus	Warren	1943-'44-'45
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton	Venango	1944-'45-'46
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell	Somerset	1945-'46-'47
Central Area		
Ed Fisher, Coudersport	Potter	1943-'44-'45
W. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore	Lycoming	1044-'45-'46
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg	Columbia	1945-'46-'47
Eastern Area		
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton	York	1943-'44-'45
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay	Lehigh	1944-'45-'46
J. K. Mast, Elverson	Lancaster	1945-'46-'47

All Directors met at Williamsport, January 24, for usual reorganization purposes and to conduct important business of the association. The following officers were elected for 1945—President, J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton, Venango County; Vice President, Ed Fisher, Coudersport, Potter County; Secretary-Treasurer, C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Williamsport; Counselor, Dr. E. L. Nixon.

Potatoes for Our Military Forces

When northern and western and southern potato growing counties of Pennsylvania were worrying and fretting about what to do with their large crop of quality potatoes the U. S. Quartermaster's Marketing Center came to the rescue with a most gratifying program. They were interested in securing dependable supplies from surplus producing sections and were more than willing to accept current market prices without the usual detailed formality of the age old "Bid System." Their program was most welcome for Pennsylvania growers who were facing the winter with thousands and thousands of bushels of potatoes still on Barn Floors. Sheds and what not. At this time every grower with potatoes to sell knew that here was an opportunity to market orderly surplus potatoes without **breaking** the market. Everyone involved at the time appreciated most sincerely the ability, fairness, and foresight of Captain Feehan and Lieut. Gebo of the U. S. Quartermaster's Marketing Center at Syracuse. They were in need of supplies to feed our Military Forces and we had them to sell.

Since the original contacts, November 10th, the potato picture has changed materially. Potatoes became scarcer and scarcer in consuming areas, due to extreme weather conditions, increased Army and Civilian consumption and definite shortages of Refrigerator cars. These conditions changed the entire marketing picture. Buyers have become "Panicky" and growers have become "Bullish"—King Spud went to market fast and furious. In many areas the black market is rearing its nasty head. Buyers have begun to buy for speculation and many growers are taking chances.

Ceiling prices have been reached. It might be well here to caution growers particularly that "the black market" will be the ruination of regular channels of trade which will be with us long after this war is over and OPA is dead and buried. An established market cultivated and growing over a period of years can easily disappear over a period of several weeks. It is our advice—**Don't Black Market— Frown** on it and **Cast** it aside.

As in November and December our Military Forces need potatoes and need them badly during February, March, and April. They will pay ceiling prices net on the car in used Burlap Bags. They have paid promptly and are most pleasant to deal with and will lean over backwards in concessions. They insist, as they should, upon quality potatoes regularly supplied.

Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc.

Secretary and General Manager's Report of 1944 Activities January 11, 1945

TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION: As your Secretary and General Manager, I am happy to make the following report of the Association's activities and progress for the fiscal year, 1944:

MEMBERSHIP: This Association's paid membership to January 1st has been on the steady increase due to consistent efforts on the part of directors, officers, and many members. Figures show an increase over 1943 of 49, making an all-time high, an increase over 1941 of 37.4 per cent. This consistency occurs in spite of the fact that our Annual Field Day was canceled when several hundred more are usually secured. Sixty counties and six states make up this membership with Lehigh, Columbia, York, Erie, Schuylkill, Somerset, and Warren topping the list in the order named. Obviously this membership is not high enough considering services being rendered, therefore, stress will be placed upon it in the year to come. Growers are advised while in Harrisburg this week to check with Miss Connelly and Mr. Hindman whenever possible. Our membership should be doubled, no less.

THE GUIDE POST: The GUIDE POST, our official trade publication, has been issued monthly, somewhat late at times but mostly because of printing difficulties and more pressing current business. Every effort is being made to present timely production and marketing problems vital to the potato industry in Pennsylvania. We do not pretend to do the thinking for the membership, but we try rather to present current opinions and viewpoints. Pictures and diagrams are being used frequently to illustrate and personalize as much as possible, at not too great a cost. One hundred twenty pages of commercial advertising have been paid for. The revenue thus accumulated has paid for printing charges. Our advertisers have been most co-operative; they not only deserve our support but our wholehearted appreciation as well. In the publishing of "The GUIDE POST" we do not pretend to make a literary or commercial masterpiece, but do endeavor to make it a practical and interesting handbook. To date we have seen nothing like it in the country.

"CAMP POTATO": The physical condition of the Camp has been maintained even though its use by members and patrons was most limited for obvious reasons. Neither farmer-operators nor caretakers were employed the past year. We managed fairly well, however, with the help of Centre, Juniata, Huntingdon, Franklin and Fulton County Future Farmer Chapters, Director Ed Fisher and Dr. E. L. Nixon. As usual, Dr. Nixon carried the brunt of the planning and the carrying out of these plans.

Approximately six acres of seedlings were planted on Camp Potato acreage with the balance on the farms of Sky High Farms, Mac VanWegen, Don Stearns, Everett Blass, Foster Blough and Lew Blough. An agreement was entered into with the above whereby the Association's interest in promising seedlings was protected.

Approximately 2,573 bushels, in addition to small lots planted on the "Camp" premises, were distributed for planting last spring.

A committee, with Director McPherson as chairman, was appointed to formulate a plan whereby "Camp Potato" and the seedling development program could be continued, enlarged and, in the case of "The Camp" itself, completed. Briefly, this committee recommended the organization of a co-operative to be known as "Camp Potato Seed Growers' Co-operative" and that all seed produced by its members from camp seedlings be sold at a price over and above table stock market prices. This additional price, adjusted from time to time, would revert to a fund to be used for the maintenance and operation of "Camp Potato." All seed sold would be packed in a special seed bag supplied by the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association.

To date 3,025 bushels have been distributed to seed growers in 25 and 50 bag lots per seedling in areas where their development will be carefully observed. Recipients of our better seedlings will be asked to enter into an agreement to eliminate promiscuous distribution as soon as the formation of the new seed development co-operative can be consummated.

CAMP POTATO FIELD DAY: Extensive preparations were made for our annual Summer Field Day at "Camp Potato," August 10th. The program was to have included a brief business session of Association members climaxed by a pageant entitled "Turning Potatoes into Gold" which was to dramatize the evolution of this Association, beginning in 1936 to the present time. There was to be actual contacting of growers and distributors by the different office personnel with H. T. Walsworth of Atlantic Commission Co., Altoona, and John Stovalsky of American Stores Co., Johnstown, representing the buyers; a Potato Picking Contest, a Basket Picnic, Field Inspection of Seedlings, and the official crowning of 1944's Potato Blossom Queen. The entire program for the day was designed to be interesting and educational.

Needless to say, the 1944 Field Day was canceled in accordance with official requests because of the serious outbreak of infantile paralysis in Potter and neighboring counties. Key persons were notified by telegraph and telephone so that the trip to Potter County might not be taken needlessly. Eight broadcasting stations and the Associated Press made every effort to publicize the cancellation. This cancellation was a great disappointment to hundreds of growers throughout the State.

BLOSSOM QUEEN FOR 1944: Miss Sylvia Hoober of Lancaster County was officially crowned Potato Blossom Queen by none other than Honorable Edward Martin, Governor of Pennsylvania. She was a good selection and has done a good job in publicizing and popularzing Blue Label potatoes.

GRADE INSPECTORS: Four formal grading schools were held this year in co-operation with The Pennsylvania State College and the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture; also, individual training and instruction was given to forty men throughout the state by officers of this Association. Sixty-three new authorizations to pack were issued.

MAKING THE GRADE: There has been a decided improvement of the Blue Label pack. This has been accomplished through constant vigilance on the part of directors, employed officers, and cooperating members. There have been load rejections, considering the millions sold the percentage is well below 1 per cent. Every effort is being made to impress inspectors and growers that the Blue Label pack must be *right* if we are to continue to porgress as a marketing association. There is a definite tendency on the part of buyers to stipulate their preference of white-skinned varieties. In several areas Russets are refused entirely. This would mean, of course, that we must plant more white skin varieties but not to the entire exclusion of Russets. Chippers and dehydrators are still requesting Pennsylvania Russets.

POTATO MOVEMENT: Our goal for 1944-45 as set by our Directors was to double 1943 season's sales. This goal has been met, for the sale of Blue Label potatoes in 1944 has exceeded 1943 by 2,460,922 peck-equivalents, or 120 per cent. To this should be added the sale, through the association, of 22,371 100-lb. burlap bags of potatoes, which is equivalent to 149,140 pecks. Therefore, the 1944 grand total peck-equivalent movement is 4,647,295. Prices have been good and always within the market. Local supplies have affected prices somewhat but only temporarliy. The extremely heavy surplus crop of the northwestern part of the state was marketed quickly and efficiently. The outstanding move for the year was undoubtedly the transfer of the Butler Office to the northwestern section of the state, Union City.

Army and Navy, chippers and dehydrators bought heavily in 100-lb. burlaps. Several hundred carloads were moved in this way. Agreements have been entered into with Army and Navy Procurement officials to supply them with an additional lot of 250 cars. This bit of co-operation was considered necessary for the good of Pennsylvania Potato Industry, present and future. More might be said but time does not permit.

DIRECTOR'S MEETINGS: Officers of the Board were regularly elected and committees appointed. Four meetings to transact important business were held in May, June, August, and September at Pittsburgh, State College, "Camp Potato" and Harrisburg respectively. Your officers and contactmen attended potato growers' meetings in Schuylkill, Warren, Lehigh, Somerset, Columbia, Nor-

thumberland, Sullivan, and Lycoming counties. They likewise attended and participated in marketing tours, F.F.A. meetings, and vocational meetings of teachers and advisors.

JOINT CONFERENCES: Two Joint Conferences were held, Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, with food distributors and growers. Results were definitely gratifying.

PRODUCTION MEETINGS: Production and marketing meetings were held in Union City, Johnstown, and Wilkes-Barre, the attendance was around 100 in each case. Favorable reports have been received and more meetings requested.

THE PAPER BAG SITUATION: Through proper manipulation, we have been fortunate in securing all paper bags necessary. The cost to the Association was increased but was kept the same to growers. Four concerns, The Equitable Paper Bag Co., The Hammond Bag and Paper Co., The Taggart Corporation, and the Union Bag Company, are now supplying us with these supplies. All companies have co-operated splendidly—they, as well as us, have their troubles. Their production schedules are off occasionally but by and large we have been able to fill in gaps wherever they occurred. Grower co-operation has been of great assistance in bag distributions.

FINANCES: The annual audit as made by H. E. Boice, Accountant of Williamsport, indicates that 1944 was operated at a net profit of $10,768.34. All salaries, rents, taxes, etc., have been paid in full. Bills involving special commissions, telegraph, expenses for contactmen, received after our year's books were closed, are still payable. This expense is amply offset by a sales differential or handling charge realized on the burlap bag movement.

A complete financial statement to January 1, 1945, is attached to this report. All association property is covered by insurance and all employees are protected by compensation insurance. Your treasurer and office employees handling funds have been bonded.

This briefly concludes my report of the association's outstanding activities. I believe it is in order here to thank all who have co-operated so well throughout the year; without their help we could not have accomplished so much. To Dr. E. L. Nixon and Loyal Odhner of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, we owe more than words can express. They have been of invaluable assistance to us in every major activity of this association.

Attached to this report are:
The Membership for 1944 by Counties.
The Official Audit.
The 400-Bushel Club Winners.
The Blue Peck Equivalent Movement by Counties.
The 1944 Monthly Sales by Areas.
A Graph Showing Movement and Prices for Past Two Seasons.

Respectfully submitted,

C. F. H. WUESTHOFF, *Secretary*

Resolution to Congressmen

PENNSYLVANIA CO-OPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting—Harrisburg
January 12, 1945

Dear Sir:

The following resolution was drawn up in response to the request of members of The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association who are not unmindful of their patriotic duty but who are very much concerned over food production possibilities for 1945. Please study this resolution and act according to your best judgment.

RESOLUTION

We, The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association in assembly fully appreciate and have the utmost confidence in the leadership pertaining to the War Effort, *but* do feel it our bounden duty to call attention in the most impressive manner that we know, that unquestionable disastrous results will accrue to the Potato Production of Pennsylvania if the Selective Service operates to its fullest extent as we understand it. It must be recognized that the young men on the potato farms of the state between the ages of 16 and 26 are producing an average of 40 acres or 10,000 bushels per prospective inductee in these brackets.

An actual census signed by 112 individual growers taken in the above session reveals that they who grew a total of 8,115 acres in 1944 would be compelled to reduce this acreage to 4,230 acres if these key men in this age group who operate the highly mechanized equipment are inducted. These growers are representative of the entire area of Pennsylvania and on the basis of these statistics the reduction would be 47 per cent. Further statistics show that this type of highly mechanized farm in Pennsylvania produces 67 per cent of the entire potato crop of this state. These are the farms most affected by the withdrawal of these youth. We mean by mechanized farms, farms equipped with 20 hp tractors, 10- to 12-row sprayers, 2- to 4-row planters, diggers, grading, packing and transportation equipment operated only by youth in this age group. Most owners and directive heads of these farms in this census are beyond the age of 14-hour days.

We therefore resolve that this matter be called to the attention of those in authority so that a possible potato shortage may be averted in time.

Very truly yours,

PENNSYLVANIA CO-OPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
C. F. H. Wuesthoff
CFHW:nc *Exec. Sec'y and Gen. Mgr.*

John A. Logan—

Continued from page ten

LEADERSHIP AND CO-OPERATION

Your leadership has demonstrated what can be done in potatoes, in milk and in many other commodities.

Farmers and all who distribute their products should work as a team to expand post-war food markets. The farmer's natural instinct for abundant production should be harnessed with the demonstrated ingenuity of distributors to enlarge the dietary opportunity of all Americans. We must strive to avoid market demoralization due to surpluses. Furthermore, producers, processors, and distributors should try to solve these problems on a self-help basis.

It is indeed gratifying to feel that as distributors we have had the opportunity and the privilege of working hand in hand with you to the mutual benefit of all participants and for the welfare of the entire public.

Let us here and now declare our intention of continuing our joint endeavors in a true spirit of co-operation.

Wood Preservatives for Potato Storage Houses

Carl D. Hullinger

Potato growers make special efforts to maintain high humidity in their storage rooms; if they do not the potatoes will shrivel. Many potato storages are built below ground, under barns, or in side-hills to save expense and also to take advantage of the more moist conditions caused by such location. While all this is very good for the potatoes, it makes for short life for the wood which goes into the structure of the storage for it will rot out rapidly under such conditions. Moist conditions, such as are found in or near the ground level. always shorten the useful life of any wood materials, structural lumber, doors, floors, window frames, bins, or partitions. When lumber was cheap and plentiful, replacement was relatively simple and not too expensive. Now when all wood materials are scarce and high in price and many not available at all, the problem is a much more serious one. With lumber very high on the list of critical war materials it is a patriotic duty to conserve it.

When shoes or tires become scarce and rationed, we try to take care of the old ones and make them last longer. Similar reasoning may be applied to the conservation of lumber. We have not had to pay much attention to wood preservative treatments in the past. Now when we see a beam or post in a storage room which shows signs of fungus growth or rot on it, we begin to speculate on how long it is going to last, whether we can get another to replace it when it ultimately fails, and if there is anything we can do to prolong its useful life. Many farmers are not aware that by certain preservative treatments, wood may be made to last from two to three times as long, even under the very damp conditions of an underground storage. If one thousand board feet of lumber treated with preservative will last as long as two or three thousand board feet of untreated, the importance of proper treatment is very apparent.

There are many types of wood preservatives but unfortunately most of these require that they be applied under pressure to be effective. Creosote is one of these materials even though it has been widely used as a brush application in the past. Lumber so treated may rot in a very short time. However, the relatively new material, Cuprinol, appears very promising for farm use since it is effective when simply applied to the surface of the wood with a brush. This material uses copper as a base which makes its rot-resisting properties permanent once it is applied to the wood. Shavings treated with Cuprinol and buried in the ground have been turned up a year later with no visible signs of rot on them. Greenhouse benches and flats, which rot out so quickly because they are kept wet so much of the time, give very much longer service if they are treated with Cuprinol. When rot organisms became evident on the interior woodwork of the cold storage rooms at the Pennsylvania State College orchard, a brush application of Cuprinol was given to check further damage in the damp atmosphere of the storage.

Treatment of lumber with Cuprinol costs about ½ cent per surface square foot for the material and another ½ to 1 cent for the labor to apply it. However, if lumber costs $70 per M. and another $20 or $30 per M. for the labor to re-install it, it is readily seen that the additional $15 per M. added to the first cost for the Cuprinol treatment is an excellent investment when figured on a dollars-and-cents basis alone. We might even change the old adage "An ounce of prevention" to read "An ounce of preservative" in order to modernize its reference to wood products.

Because so much lumber is used in all kinds of farm buildings, a wood preservative has many uses other than just for the treatment of the storage room materials. Silos, wagons, corn cribs, porch floors and steps, fence posts, window and door frames, and many other places where wood is either exposed to the weather or is used near the ground, are all examples of where the use of a wood preservative can be made to save much time and money. Because Cuprinol is not poisonous to plant and animal life, and since it is practically odorless after a few days, it can be used on wood which comes in direct contact with living plants or human food. A special type of Cuprinol is available for use on canvas, ropes, and other fabric materials and many uses will be found for it.

Abstract of Address:

The 1945 Agricultural Outlook

Wheeler McMillin

A number of unpleasant certainties confront farmers this year.

The draft will take for the armed services additional numbers of men who have been important in food production.

The difficulties of keeping motor vehicles in operation will become harder to meet.

Machinery and equipment will become more worn with relatively little available for replacement.

Fertilizers will be somewhat less plentiful and many supplies harder to find.

Casualty lists will affect the morale of every community, and in the end doubtless will intensify the determination that whatever efforts and whatever sacrifices are required, they shall be faced in order that victory may be hastened.

Wisdom will demand that farmers during 1945 shall:

Plan carefully to preserve their soil and improve its fertility.

Plant only the best seeds to be obtained.

Manage their time with the best efficiency of which they are capable.

Use the winter months to save summer time—stock up in advance with seed, fertilizer and supplies, check machinery and order repairs, and seek to anticipate peaks and problems of the busier periods.

Guard health and take some time to rest.

Engage in no speculation, build up reserves and accumulate War Bonds.

This year will call for the nation's greatest war effort to date, all the way from the smallest farms to the broadest fighting fronts. The utmost in food production in nearly all lines will be needed.

VARIETAL ADAPTIONS

Professor Stanley Cobb, Pennsylvania State College

Varietal adaptation is one of the most important questions for the potato grower to settle. Growing environment varies considerably in Pennsylvania. In the north is the short cool season, sometimes dry; in the central part of the state is a medium length season sometimes hot and dry, and in the southeast we have a long season often hot and dry. The south-central is generally of a high altitude with favorable potato-growing conditions notably in Somerset and Cambria counties. In all these regions we have soil and altitude variations which further complicate the picture. Fortunately these environmental factors, especially length of season, do not affect potatoes as seriously as they do corn. And yet to grow the best of both yield and quality we must admit there is some difference in adaptation of potatoes.

Now, let us review the variety trends in Pennsylvania for the last thirty years. When I came to the state in 1919 it was quite well established through experiment station tests and extension demonstrations that the Rural group of potatoes was the best all round late potato and the Cobbler the best early. Then the question of best source of certified disease-free seed was determined over a period of about ten years. At the same time the practice of spraying was emphasized and improved. For the next ten years most growers were fairly well

	Yield—State College				Yield—Lancaster				
Variety	*Total Bu. per A.*	*% U.S. No. 1*	*Bu. U.S. No. 1*	*U.S. No. 1 Rank*	*Total Bu. per A.*	*% U.S. No. 1*	*Bu. U.S. No. 1*	*U.S. No. 1 Rank*	*Cooking Quality*
Early Maturity									
Warba	163.0	82	134	3	100.0	84	84	5	Fairly mealy
Mesaba	148.0	80	118	6	135.0	83	112	3	" "
Cobbler	146.0	84	123	5	94.0	89	84	5	" "
Nittany	157.0	85	133	4	——	—	—	—	" "
Bliss	137.0	78	107	7	106.0	90	95	4	Soggy to mealy
Pawnee	160.0	91	146	1	140.0	94	132	1	Mealy
Chippewa	165.0	88	145	2	142.0	88	125	2	Soggy
Medium Maturity									
Houma	190.0	80	152	4	——	—	—	—	Soggy
Green Mt.	116.0	81	94	5	95.0	84	80	4	Very mealy
Mohawk	200.0	93	186	2	122.0	93	113	3	" "
Katahdin	175.0	88	154	3	150.0	88	132	2	Soggy
Pontiac	259.0	85	220	1	190.0	87	165	1	"
Late Maturity									
Rus. Rural	230.0	72	166	5	135.0	80	108	6	Soggy to mealy
White Rur.	208.0	80	166	5	142.0	88	125	3	Soggy to mealy
Sebago	210.0	83	174	4	135.0	88	119	5	Soggy to mealy
Menominee	308.0	86	265	2	218.0	90	196	2	Soggy to mealy
Very Late Maturity									
Potomac	300.0	84	252	3	135.0	90	122	4	Soggy to mealy
Sequoia	330.0	86	284	1	238.0	88	209	1	Mealy

satisfied with the seed questions and worried about the marketing. Now we are in a period of exploration for new and improved varieties with which to improve the reputation of Pennsylvania as a potato-growing state. The development of new varieties has been going on in this state for several years and also in other states. Recently the national potato improvement program has released numerous new named varieties and some unnamed strains for us to test. These, added to new developments at home, should give us a wide choice from which to find better adapted varieties for yield and quality.

Finding the best is a slow process and necessarily so because the seasons from year to year are anything but alike. Some may say that the Russet Rural is still good enough for them. Very true, but in the last few seasons a prolonged hot, dry spell in parts of the state have given disappointing Russet yields. Now, can we find a variety more tolerant of such seasons and also of good quality and disease resistance. Several years' testing will be required to determine this but it certainly is not impossible.

The variety yields that I shall discuss with you are from last year only, and this should be remembered before drawing conclusions. Most all our observations on them are anything but final.

Secretary of Agriculture

Miles Horst

Speaking at the annual banquet of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, he said that through the entire week farmers showed a seriousness of purpose such as never before displayed at Farm Show meetings.

"Farmers showed a determination to get along as best they could with what they have," he said. "Most have accepted the shortage of labor, machinery, seeds or equipment and will take chances with what they can get. They talked over such problems as efficiency in production and exchanged many new ideas. They will make every effort to raise more food in 1945 than in any other war year."

Participating in a symposium on marketing, Secretary Horst commended the potato growers for their leadership in grading and co-operative marketing which in the past 25 years has created consumer demand for Pennsylvania potatoes of known high quality. Among suggestions offered was need for meeting increased competition after the war and for education of the public to maintain a higher level of food consumption as a health measure and in keeping with ability to buy.

1944 CERTIFIED SEED PRODUCTION

by Federal-State Crop Reporting Service

In Pennsylvania during 1944 there were 1,955.35 acres of potatoes inspected for seed certification compared with 2,115.45 acres inspected in 1943. There were 1,067.95 acres certified and 887.4 acres rejected this year compared with 1,182.9 acres certified and 932.55 acres rejected in 1943.

Varieties certified in their order of production are as follows: Katahdin, Russet Rural, Sebago, White Rural, Sequoia, Houma, Nittany, Irish Cobbler and Potomac. The total production for all varieties in 1944 was 297,510 bushels compared with 307,834 bushels in 1943.

While most all sections of the State suffered to some extent from the dry weather during July and August, most of the principal seed growing areas had conditions that were quite favorable to the production of a good crop of certified seed.

Of the total acreage entered for certification this year, 45.3% was rejected for defects of one kind or another, resulting from disease, unfavorable growing conditions and not being properly isolated from other diseased potatoes. Tubers of the 1944 crop are generally not so uniform and smooth as was the case with the 1943 crop. Traces of scab are present but no serious infections were found. The average yield per acre of the 1944 crop of certified seed was 278.5 bushels compared with the 260.1 bushel average of the 1943 crop.

Seed potatoes were certified in fifteen counties of the State this year as follows: Berks, Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Elk, Indiana, Lehigh, Mercer, Monroe, Potter, Somerset, Sullivan, Tioga, Warren and Wyoming.

Pennsylvania ranked fifteenth among the twenty-seven States that produced certified seed in 1944. This State ranked first in the production of White Rurals, second in Russets, third in Sebagos, fourth in Katahdins and Houmas, and fifth in Sequoias. There were no Chippewas certified this year and, like last year, there was no War-Approved production in this State.

On the largest acreage ever harvested in the United States, the 1944 production of **certified** seed potatoes, indicated at 32,339,991 bushels, was 11 per cent larger than the previous record crop of

29,070,831 bushels in 1943 and nearly 2½ times the 10-year (1933-42) average production of 13,976,101 bushels. About one out of every 12 bushels of potatoes produced in 1944 was certified for seed, while the average number certified during the 10 years 1933-42 was only one out of every 26 bushels.

Production of **War-Approved** seed potatoes, indicated at 4,570,290 bushels, was only 36 per cent as large as that of 1943 (12,716,973 bushels), the year this grade was established. Although only 3 States produced more **War-Approved** seed than in 1943, 17 out of the 27 States produced more **certified** seed in 1944 than in 1943. Because of the sharp decreases in production of **War-Approved** seed, the total production (36,910,281 bushels) of certified and War-Approved seed potatoes in 1944 fell 12 per cent below that (41,787,804 bushels) of 1943.

In 1944, 159,022 acres of **certified** seed potatoes passed final inspection which exceeded the previous record acreage of 125,851 acres in 1943 by 26 per cent and the 1942 acreage of 95,230 acres by 67 per cent. The largest (percentage) increases in acreage over 1943 were in Wisconsin, Maine, South Dakota, and Idaho. Decreases in States with an acreage of more than 1,000 acres in 1944 occurred only in Nebraska, California, Pennsylvania, and Michigan. Acreage in 3 States—Maine, North Dakota, and Minnesota—accounted for 71 per cent of the total U. S. certified acreage in 1944 and 67 per cent in 1943.

Acreage of **War-Approved** seed potatoes in 1944, totaling 33,724 acres, was 47 per cent of the 1943 acreage (71,817 acres). Smaller acreages of these potatoes were harvested in 18 out of 21 States, the increases having been only in Idaho, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.

Although yields per acre of **certified** seed were larger in 1944 than in 1943 in 16 out of 26 States, the average yield for the United States of 203 bushels in 1944 was 12 per cent smaller than the 1943 yield of 231 bushels. Included in these averages, however, are total yields reported by some States, and yields exclusive of culls in other States.

Ten varieties accounted for 95 per cent of the total production of **certified** seed in 1944 and 1943. These varieties with the percentages of the total production in 1944 and 1943 that each represented are: Cobbler 25.35 per cent in 1944 and 26.86 per cent in 1943, Triumph 17.15 and 19.48, Katahdin 13.70 and 16.10, Green Mountain 13.18 and 10.75, Chippewa 5.65 and 4.31, Sebago 5.57 and 5.56, Russet Burbank 5.51 and 5.11, White Rose 4.75 and 3.85, Red McClure 2.17 and 1.13, and Russet Rural 1.64 and 1.68. As will be noted from the foregoing percentages, the first four varieties maintained the same order of importance in 1944 as in 1943. Fifth place in 1944, however, went to Chippewa instead of Sebago.

The 1944 production in bushels of **certified** seed potatoes included under "Other Varieties" with leading producing States for the varieties named given in parenthesis, was as follows: Red McClure, 701,771 (Colo.); Pontiac, 253,947 (Minn., No. Dak., and Mich.); Red Warba, 247,490 (Minn., N. Dak., Wyo., and S. Dak.); Warba, 110,799 (Minn., N. Dak. and Me.); Earlaine No. 2, 97,287 (Me).; Mesaba, 14,412 (Minn.); Menominee, 13,288 (Mich.); Kasota, 12,575 (Nebr. and Minn.); California Pride, 11,667 (Calif.); Brown Beauty, 5,281 (Colo.), and a number of other varieties each with a production of less than 5,000 bushels.

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW & RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of The Guide Post

Nathan Wanamaker, Lehigh
John P. Moyer, Berks
F. J. Lindner, Schuylkill
Harry K. Fowler, Lehigh
J. A. Jones, Northampton
Dewey Scheller, Monroe
Robert J. Yonkin, Sullivan
Frank Rohe, Sullivan
Kemerly Conner, Sullivan
Kenneth Bowman, York
J. Mont McGinnis, York
Elvin Huntzinger, Schuylkill
H. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Ralph Kresge, Wyoming
Ambrose Keller, Maryland
A. Irwin Hostetter, Adams
A. C. Ramseyer, Ohio
George W. Tallman, Schuylkill
Clarke Clemmer, Massachusetts
Mahlon King, Chester
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Harold Kuhns, Lehigh
Ivan Miller, Erie
Frank H. Krause, Lehigh
George F. Krause, Lehigh
Lee W. Ellenberger, Huntingdon
Marshall Jones, Chester
Calvin M. Will, Somerset
Lewis Stutzman, Indiana
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Clyde A. Eshelman, Lancaster
K. W. Lauer, Dauphin
C. A. Penney, Tioga
Ed Malley, New York
Levi Brubaker, Lancaster
Paul Fehlen, Michigan
John A. Sykora, Potter
F. A. Westrick, Cambria
A. D. Weaver, Cambria
Gerald Springer, Cambria
Charles H. Harmony, Lehigh
Clyde Klouser, Schuylkill
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
L. O. Thompson, York
G. D. Geiselman, Adams
Victor Snyder, Schuylkill
Leon Epler, Northumberland
John H. Menges, Adams
Elam King, Chester
A. C. Hacker, Lehigh
J. Ralph George, Lehigh
Leroy Hoffman, Lehigh
Fred D. Leiby, Lehigh
William B. Krause, Lehigh
J. E. Slade, Lehigh
H. F. Mahle, Lehigh

Herman L. Bashore, Lebanon
Guy Stutzman, Indiana
Harry Poorbaugh, Schuylkill
Hugh McPherson, York
Lester Lohr, Somerset
Roy Wotring, Lehigh
Clark B. Hower, Montour
N. J. Bashore, Lebanon
Don Stearns, Potter
C. T. Bastian Lehigh
Carl L. Trexler, Berks
F. A. Westrick, Jr., Cambria
H. Ward Zimmer, Cameron
Curtis H. Adams, Berks
Stephen Stimpfle, Lehigh
Walter D. Seem, Lehigh
Francis Yahner, Cambria
William M. Stine, Lehigh
Arthur D. Creitz, Lehigh
Edward Comstock, Tioga
J. J. Crossley, Columbia
Wallace Golden, Fulton
Nelson L. Fisher, Clarion
Arthur D. Shaffer, Cambria
Andrew Bolish, Carbon
Cyrus B. Ferguson, Lancaster
Harry C. Neff, Lancaster
John J. Daniel, Dauphin
Ray Hoffman, Columbia
George T. Baxter, Fayette
Norman C. Strohl, Carbon
Harry E. Graver, Carbon
Fred Whiton, Massachusetts
A. P. Heim, Schuylkill
James W. Loper, Tioga
Elmer W. Kunkel, Lehigh
George W. H. Schneck, Lehigh
Roy R. Hess, Columbia
N. E. Dietrick, Berks
Alvin Wissler, Lancaster
Robert M. Baker, Ohio
W. H. Gregory & Son, Carbon
Peter L. Holtz, Cambria
Elias Z. Musser, Lancaster
Robert E. Rupert, Fulton
Walter J. Rupp, Cumberland
Melvin G. Scholler, Fulton
Carson T. Mertz, Mercer
Richard Hornaberger, Columbia
Producers Co-op. Exchange, Chester
John N. Stoltzfus, Chester
Dymond Bros., Luzerne
Ira Varner, Indiana
T. R. Auker, Snyder
Frank Metzger, Lehigh
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
Ira H. Zimmerman, Cumberland
Arthur Mohler, Lebanon
Bert Fox, Warren
Charles Little, York
Walter Good, Berks
E. L. Nixon, Centre
F. S. Baldi, Philadelphia

W. G. Donaldson, Venango
Ralph H. Bange, York
Paul Wessner, Lehigh
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Edgar Beck, York
Weaver Sander, Lebanon
Erwin Whitaker, Northampton
J. C. Schutd, Lancaster
A. T. Blakeslee, Monroe
A. A. Merrick, Philadelphia
Guy S. Reed, Schuylkill
Kenneth Beaver, Perry
Howard Fox, Warren
William Beam, Chester
John K. Wolgemuth, Lancaster
C. L. Goodling, Philadelphia
H. E. Millard, Lebanon
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Paul Peter, Lehigh
J. S. Cobb, Centre
Fred J. Hunsicker, Northampton
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A. W. Wiggins, Lackawanna
H. C. McWilliams, Cambria
George R. Jackson, Chester
Robert Henninger, Northampton
Wilbur Seipt, Montgomery
O. W. Beachley, Somerset
H. S. Lute, Cambria
Leroy Shutt, Bucks
Marvin Sell, Lehigh
Amos Eberly, Lancaster
Roy W. H. Maurer, Potter
Clyde A. Zehner, Dauphin
A. B. Carey, New York
John Mallery, Mercer
Bernard Wanamaker, Lehigh
W. D. Anderson, York
Robert Getz, Carbon
Leroy Getz, Carbon
Warren Getz, Monroe
Paul Hiestand, Lancaster
J. P. McKnight, Northampton
George Bishop, Bucks
D. M. Seem, Lehigh
John B. Weaver, York
Raymond Schrack, Clinton
Ross R. Miller, York
Charles Geiger, Lehigh
Roy Heyer, Northampton
C. B. Musser, York
Morris S. Kriebel, Berks
F. C. Brehm, Indiana

VISION
The GUIDE POST
PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS

Some reasons for slow irregular deliveries — Potato counties had 70 to 110 inches of snowfall in 3-4 weeks.— Dead-end roads were the rule rather than the exception.

FEBRUARY — 1945

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THE GUIDE POST

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UNION CITY

Volume XXII **February, 1945** **Number 2**

THE RUTS IN AGRICULTURE

Discussion Summarization by Dr. E. W. NIXON, Agricultural Councilor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

The trouble with Agriculture all over Pennsylvania today is that the leadership has lost its imagination.

The dividends of too much caution and security are twiddling iteration and self-satisfaction.

It is better to have adventured in agricultural pursuits, and made mistakes, than to have become stagnant in mind and imagination, with a horizon bounded by security and conformity.

Only the dead know complete security; conformity is the hobgoblin of little minds.

There is hardly a sphere of human activity, whether it be production, conservation, reclamation, transportation, cooperation; whether it be in politics, education, science or in religion, that there is not a cry and a need for leaders.

Never before have there been so many profoundly important causes, social and economic, dying for the lack of intelligent, practical, rural and industrial leadership. It is a coordinated cooperative mankind that must make civilization work.

Behold how miserable is man when the foot of the conqueror is on his neck. It matters not whether that conqueror is his fellow man, the elements over which he has no control, or a social or economic regime—he is still miserable.

The yoke of the conqueror, whether it be hazel brush or goldenrod, cannot be thrown off by coasting along on the momentum of education, social standing or the pioneering of others.

It requires vision, faith, courage, enthusiasm, imagination, cooperation and the dignity of labor to put Rural America on a par with Urban America. Is it worth the effort? It is Rural America's challenge; it is Urban America's responsibility.

We dare not raise up a generation ignorant of the land and unappreciative of it. If we lose our grip on the soil, if we allow it to be depleted by human greed, and ruined by stupid selfishness —then we, ourselves—City and Country alike—shall be doomed to exhaustion and extinction.

The foregoing is what was gleaned from a discussion on the introductory topic—"The Ruts in Agriculture."

The discussion group was made up of J. A. Donaldson, Chairman Austin Donaldson, Winston Donaldson, Rev. Hosenplug, George Kennedy, Mr. and Mrs. Diets, Mrs. Brown, Ivan Miller, Frank Dodd, Mr. Fowler of New York City and Dr. Nixon.

In this group it was at first difficult to keep the discussion from wandering far afield. By and large, however, a central theme was pretty well adhered to —that of "Rural Betterment."

Another topic presented: "The Grange lives up to its ritual; is it living up to its responsibility in Rural Progress?"

Could the Grange or should it take over commodity business organizations?

Just where does the church fit into a program of rural economic development? It was agreed that rural prosperity portends rural church growth and interest. There are a lot of rural churches closing their doors in Pennsylvania. Is it a good or bad omen?

Under this general theme, Rural Prosperity, the question, **"What is the most important factor underlying successful potato production?"** was asked.

The answers centered around soil, temperature, elevation, rainfall, cheap land, expensive land, access to population, but after a thorough going-over it was unanimously agreed that successful potato **production** is most dependent on the grower himself.

This fact, it was further agreed, was first most indelibly impressed by the "All Pennsylvania Bus Tour" in 1927, where a genuine, successful potato grower was observed at every stop. Since then, every county but two has furnished at least one 400 bushel potato grower. The state now boasts of over 2300 four hundred bushel potato growers. This is successful potato production in any man's language,

Since this tour many competent growers have taken up abandoned farm land in all sections of Pennsylvania and converted it into successful potato farms.

"Why does any one grow potatoes?" was the next topic considered. The discussion had not proceeded far until it became evident that there were two lines of reasoning advanced.

The first, the same as actuates the squirrel in storing nuts in the trees—root, hog, or die. One boy in the group actually did ask, "Why would any one?" To many who grow potatoes it is about as good as anything else on the farm.

To another group who pay not only taxes but income taxes from the potato crop, who have paid the mortgage and perhaps a little besides, there comes another line of thinking. To these there comes a great sense of satisfaction and pleasure in accomplishment, enforced by a certain amount of economic security. It was agreed that on this latter group rests a certain amount of community responsibility. There ought to be a plan or project whereby such operators would get a keen sense of satisfaction and pleasure in seeing some of their surplus earnings advancing to the everlasting benefit of the community. Such projects or plans could be of such a nature that observers would not only say, "Look what these have done **for** the community" but also "Look what these have done **to the sponsors."**

Name the Characteristics of the Successful Potato Grower.

He must have vision, judgment and initiative; he must inspire confidence, and enthusiasm; he must be honest and consistent. He must have faith to believe and courage to do.

How many or what other activities can the successful potato grower be engaged in?

The consensus of opinion of the discussion group was that two major activities are enough. Many successful potato growers have little else but potatoes and related activities on their minds. Potatoes and dairying fit together the poorest.

It was agreed that successful potato growers avoid activities that get them into the ruts. Leadership never hurts successful potato growers; in fact, there is some question of success without it. Time spent in becoming a "leading" potato grower is well paid in two ways.

What is the approximate minimum economic unit of potato growing?

The discussion group agreed that 1,000 hens is subsistance for man and wife.

1500 hens pays for some extras. 2500 hens requires another helper for the man and wife.

10 cows will do for man and wife what 1000 hens will do. 25 cows equals 2500 hens.

Selective service has set 32 acres of potatoes per man. We know that 50 acres of potatoes per family have furnished it with all the house hold and farmstead conveniences. It would appear that any proportional combination of the above is economical and practical.

What is the impetus which perpetuates and causes the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association to pulsate?

First, it has a spray program without which no potato industry could be maintained.

Second, it has a 400 bushel potato club which sets a standard for yield. A profitable potato industry is based on yield per acre.

Third, all acts, however trivial or important which affect the industry are entered into only after thorough group discussion.

Fourth, it's public relations, including it's marketing program are set up on a broad base. It is free to work with any non-partisan or non-patronage seeking groups for the advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Fifth, through Camp Potato and the joint conference programs, it is exploring the social and economic aspects of Rural Life and Agricultural Ruts.

Finally, the potato growers of Pennsylvania came up from the grass roots. They know poverty. They appreciate the problems of Rural Pennsylvania and they know what makes the wheels go round.

ROTATIONS FOR POTATOES

A. L. HACKER, Lehigh County Agent
Presented at Farm Show Meeting

After observing potato growing and potato farmers in Lehigh County for the past quarter century, I may be at least partially qualified to open this discussion.

Looking at this problem from a permanent, normal viewpoint, we can make this prediction. There will be fewer potato growers in the United States than now. It will be more competitive and more exacting. It is doubtful, in my opinion whether we can ever regain the high rate of consumption per capita which prevailed in the period of the "full dinner pail" slogan days of the early part of this century.

Therefore assuming that my prediction is correct, it will resolve itself into confining potato growing to areas which are extremely well adapted, close to market and it will force a strict adherence to methods of production which will practically guarantee high yields of high quality potatoes. It will mean a rotation with an organic building background. It will be a somewhat longer rotation. It will be programs backed up by confidence, by experience, by knowledge, by good equipment, and by an educational program.

The Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association is known largely as a marketing organization. Is it not more of an educational movement? Getting people to change their ideas and their practices is education.

Now the question of keeping up fertility, producing a good crop and all that sort of thing is like the production of a symphony. Or like getting a good baseball team. We cannot concentrate entirely on one or two essentials. If we think only of good pitchers or a good infield, we may overlook the importance of scoring runs. A baseball team also needs good hitters.

A well planned rotation will act as a "backer up" of good seed, spraying, fertilizer, and so on.

In my judgment we may divide potato rotations into three categories:—

No. I. The three year rotation—

1. Winter grain (wheat or barley)
2. Legume hay, preferably alfalfa
3. Potatoes

The only flexibility I would put in this rotation is my choice of a legume. It might be straight alfalfa, but I lean toward a mixture, with clover and even a little timothy.

The impression is not well founded that wire worms are encouraged when a bit of timothy is seeded in the fall with the wheat to produce a mixed sod in a three year rotation.

The number of farms or even the growers who can safely operate on a three year rotation is limited. This requires the greatest skill and the most ideal conditions. It also offers the greatest possibilities. It is my favorite rotation.

No. II. The four year rotation.

1. Wheat, hay, corn, potatoes.

This reduces the potato acreage but not necessarily the yield. It is adapted to farms which can grow corn successfully, and where manure is produced from livestock. It allows for part of the corn ground to be planted with oats or soybeans or a canning crop. It may be called a "safer" rotation.

No. III. The five year plan.

This is for the general farm, where livestock is balanced off against the cash crops. Where labor is plentiful and where potatoes are not likely to be treated like a stepchild, because it is not regarded as the principal enterprise.

Many a good crop of potatoes has been ruined, because on the general farm, spraying was neglected during wheat and hay harvest or the weeds got a start during that period.

There is much to be said in favor of the four and five year rotation. It is more flexible because it offers an opportunity to grow some other cash crops like sweet corn, canning tomatoes and peas. The value of the manure is also important.

In the longer rotation of course, corn is an important crop where livestock is raised. It is doubtful whether livestock can be kept profitably to any large extent in a three year setup. The only exception to this rule would be that poultry fits in fairly well.

To come back to a three year rotation, I am talking to a 100 per cent potato farmer. All the time and effort is con-

centrated on this crop. That is what I like about it. Since it offers the greatest risk in off years, and there will be off years, it also presents the greatest possibilities. Therefore, I recommend it only for those who are so fortunate that most of the risk is eliminated. In the lighter soils of the Lehigh belt and in some other sections of the State the wheat, alfalfa, potato, combination has proved itself.

Only during emergencies and in exceptional cases would I consider a two year rotation. There are scab problems, millipeds and erosion. If I were to step up acreage for a few years I would just as leave select my best fields and grow potatoes after potatoes. So far as erosion is concerned, I have seen very few good potato growers who have had trouble. There will be more soil loss of course, where large areas are put under the plow. In the three year rotation only one-third of the area is subjected to serious erosion at any one time for most of the year. In this rotation, very satisfactory strip cropping can be practiced. The strips can be made 32 rows wide for an eight-row sprayer. That makes a 90 foot strip, and for 10-row sprayers the strips are 105 feet wide.

PLOWING UNDER FERTILIZER FOR POTATOES

by S. D. GRAY, American Potash Institute

For further details see Mr. Gray's article in The Guide Post of December 1943

Field experiments conducted by the writer in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Association during the past four years have shown that when about one half of the total fertilizer application is plowed under with the balance in bands at planting time, potato stands are better and the yields significantly larger, than when all of the fertilizer is applied in bands.

When these experiments were started, farmers as well as official agricultural advisers were admittedly skeptical about the outcome. They had seen the transition from antiquated methods of twenty to thirty years ago to the present day planter-distributor which besides being infinitely more efficient than earlier equipment was almost universally used. Their reluctance therefore to become unduly enthusiastic about new ideas on fertilizer application methods was quite understandable.

But facts are facts and truth has a way of coming out on top. The facts are simple. In this whole matter of efficient application of fertilizers the problem now as it always has been is to supply the right proportion and right amount of the essential plant food elements, in the right place to insure freedom from fertilizer injury and the maximum yield and quality. We know pretty much what rates of the essential plant foods to use under different rotation systems on

One of the many ideas on "Broadcasting Fertilizer"

different soil types and the official recommendations based on research are our best guide. We also know from this same research how much fertilizer per acre we can use safely with the present type of fertilizer distributor. What it does not show, however, is how much more fertilizer can be profitably used, if applied in such a way as to further increase its efficiency.

The present day planter-distributors which place the fertilizer in bands to each side of the row and on a level with the seed price are a tribute to the men who designed them. They have increased markedly the efficiency in fertilizer use. They have been a boon to commercial potato growing. In principle

Continued on page twenty-one

Announcing:

THE 1945 PROJECT POTATO PLAN

For Junior Potato Growers

$15 FOR THE BEST, ORIGINAL, WORKABLE PROJECT PLAN FOR 1945

Submit your plan (typed and double spaced) on or before May 15th, 1945 to
C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Exec. Sec'y and Gen. Mgr.,
Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association
410 Campbell St., Williamsport 11, Pennsylvania

For suggestions and ideas—consult March, April, May, 1944 Guide Posts and write above office for further references.

"The Project Plan"

We definitely are of the opinion that every worthwhile enterprise should have a specific plan of action. Such a plan might well be considered a **Blue Print** with specifications. To be effective and worthwhile it should be made carefully, thoughtfully and finally put down on paper in black and white, BEFORE the enterprise is launched.

To arrange a program or Plan of Action, the owner or manager of the potato project must have certain fundamentally basic ideas in mind. The scope of the project to be attempted, the investment involved, the possibilities of producing economically and the opportunities for marketing equitably—all are to be weighted carefully and given proportionate attention.

Students of Vocational Agriculture and 4-H Club members learn through study, research and finally through doing. A potato project is a natural from the standpoint of education—it lends itself to the principle of Learning to Do by Doing. Managerial skills as well as technical and mechanical skills are all developed in no small measure by the junior potato grower. The questions that the interested student is constantly asking himself when formulating his plan is (1) What are the jobs to be done? (2) When should these jobs be done? (3) Why should they be done?

The editor of the GUIDE POST feels keenly that a Project Plan of Action should be developed by every student and club member interested in conductiong a major farm enterprise. It is the only intelligent, business-like approach to a practical farm problem. Make your plan definite as you see it now but sufficiently elastic, that adaptations at the time of the doing can be properly and practically made with good reason.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA
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J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

ANNOUNCING!

MACHINERY ADJUSTMENT CONFERENCE

DEARDORF'S GARAGE
East Market St., York, Penna.

THURSDAY, MARCH 8, 1945

A discussion group concurred in believing that a machinery adjustment school might easly result in increasing potato yields at least 50 bushel per acre.

There easily could be 8,000 acres represented at such a school. On such an acreage this would mean 400,000 bushels of potatoes at no extra cost and no extra labor.

For the grower such a meeting might easily make the difference between success and failure the coming season. For the war effort it means more food for man.

AUSPICES

Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association
York County Potato Growers' Association
A. B. Farquhar Company
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

THE PROGRAM

9:00 A.M.—Planters—Fertilizer and Seed Placement Discussion
11:00 A.M.—Cooperative Storages—Building and Operations Discussion.
Business Meeting—York County Potato Growers.

Luncheon

1:30 P.M.—Cultivators—Progressive Adjustments of Weeders and Cultivators.
Discussion—
Sprayers—Analysis of Quantity and Quality of Spray in Relation to Pressure.
Discussion—

(A similar meeting is scheduled to be held in Titusville, Crawford County, April 4th, 1945.)

1944-45 Blue Label Movement

(Peck Equivalents to Feb. 1, 1945)

Pennsylvania Blue Label potato movement for the 1944-45 season is most gratifying. Weather conditions, car shortage, road hazards, all contributed to somewhat of a slow-up for the month of January which totaled 985,856, this however, compares most favorably with the January sales for 1944 which were only 446,185 peck equivalents or less than half the amount of this year. The grand total for the 1944-45 season thus far is 3,770,888. The movement for the twenty highest counties for this season is as follows:

Erie	606,090
Lehigh	422,697
Somerset	366,275
Lancaster	264,975
Chester	217,176
Warren	213,214
Columbia	192,788
Cambria	161,287
Carbon	100,396
Monroe	87,967
Venango	69,153
Schuylkill	63,542
York	62,903
Potter	58,183
Luzerne	53,068
Northampton	50,363
Lycoming	43,045
Crawford	41,666
Centre	36,021
Indiana	34,838

BLUE LABEL

Beware! Beware!

Beware of the consumers' reaction to the **closed paper package** — breakfast foods, canned goods, brands, etc., likewise the consumer package of potatoes. Sales are definitely faster than supplies and deliveries—Mrs. Housewife wants more potatoes than ever before (strange, when shortages threaten more are purchased and consumed) but she wants her Spuds right—right in quality, quantity and in price. The grower and packer of potatoes today must be just as careful perhaps more careful of the contents of the consumer paper package than ever for a Post-war season will be upon us before we know it. In order that we maintain present markets for future marketing seasons it is **up to us** as growers to **Make and Keep Blue Labels Right.** We can undo the good conscientious work of the past eight years in the last few weeks of the present marketing season. If consumers are getting their money's worth and are made satisfied customers, we are sure of a good, consistent post-war market. Packers and suppliers this month have the answer in their hands. It is either good or poor. No half way marks, no borderline cases. It's a Good Blue Label or a Poor Blue Label. We can forestall adverse reactions to the Closed Consumer Package **Now,** this month.

BLUE LABEL

Drafted Farm Workers

Alarm caused by the fear that the amended Selective Service Act would not be observed is subsiding. Essential farm workers are being deferred if **proper appeal has been made and sufficient information has been given.** Some have been inducted because they failed or refused to appeal for deferment, but the estimate now is that only about five per cent of the reclassified farm workers in Pennsylvania will be taken for military service. No doubt some mistakes have been made, both in deferment and in refusal of deferment, but that is to be expected and these cases do not indicate general disregard of the law under whcih Selective Service is operating. The farm labor situation continues critical, and production equal to that of the past two years now appears impossible. But **farmers are going to do all they can to produce food.**

PURPOSE AND ACTIVITIES

of

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Address presented by General Manager C. F. H. WUESTHOFF at the Joint Conference in January

This association was originally organized purely for educational and social reasons. It was a medium through which growers expressed their interests and desires to public educational and social agencies. As such, historians agree it did a good job **in keeping** growers acquainted with production problems and scientific developments. Demonstrations, displays and exhibits, all educational were presented—tours, for education and social reasons were organized to bring growers closer together and to acquaint them with the practices of fellow growers in this state and other states. The old educational association did its job and did it well but—a serious gap developed. Growers learned how to produce and produce abundantly. Pennsylvania took its place among commercial growing states, in fact, I am told commercial potato growing as such had its first inception in Lehigh County, Pennsylvania. This state, if reports are true, was once the second state in the Union in the **production** of potatoes. The old association as organized in the early twenties, served its purpose and served it well—The job was done well—but there it ended. All emphasis was placed upon Production, Production and more Production.

Growers, educators, and businessmen after repeated "Get Togethers" discovered finally that the production of potatoes was only a small part of the job of growers of potatoes. No matter how well the production job was accomplished unless that crop could be marketed economically and efficiently it was indeed "Loves Labor Lost."

It is a well known fact that even though Pennsylvania imported millions and millions of bushels of potatoes into this state annually, growers were still begging for a market for their crop. County after county in this state grew wonderful crops, placed them in cellar storages until spring and finally sold them at ruinous prices. We were constantly in the hands of hucksters and speculators. In many instances the crop was not even sold but hauled out onto the fields in the spring.

Now why—Our markets were here at our very doorsteps, we had the crops but **we did not know HOW or WHEN or WHERE** to market systematically, efficiently or economically.

The organizers of this Cooperative spent hours upon hours in the study of marketing of Pennsylvania Potatoes. They were pioneers, indeed. Experiences of businessmen, growers and educators were finally whipped together into a practical workable program. The program evolved has stood the test for nigh onto nine years. Each year finds us working together more effectively and harmoniously than ever. This is as it should be in any true cooperative for we **are** a cooperative in the truest sense. A cooperative of growers, for growers, controlled and operated by growers. Nine elected directors, representing nine producing areas of the state; one man, one vote, regardless of investment or size; no binding contracts or agreements; no pooling; no highly organized system of bookkeeping but direct payments for direct deliveries.

This newly organized Cooperative known as the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, adopted By-Laws which definitely state the association's purpose—"To bring together for **mutual cooperative effort** and **service all agencies engaged** or **interested** in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases." We younger men in the field, appreciate that when this statement of purpose was adopted it was certainly all inclusive and decidedly forward looking in scope. We, as an association, still stand foursquare upon this platform. We do definitely invite the cooperation of all agencies in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes, further we do invite all agencies interested in the general promotion and advancement of Pennsylvania's $35,000,000

Potato Industry to place their shoulders to the wheel.

There is but one reservation, we as a cooperative of potato growers welcome and invite assistance, we need assistance — moral, educational, and even recreational—but we insist that we shall remain free to conduct our own business affairs. We are and expect to continue to be the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association—"A Co-op of growers, for growers and by growers."

By maintaining this stand over the past eight and one-half years, we have become the outstanding co-operative of the country. We have enjoyed good, bad and again good years and have by the grace of God and good foresight, come through with our "colors up." We have enjoyed the co-operation of **business,** of **industry** and of **educators** and we fervently hope this splendid spirit will continue to prevail in years ahead.

We do not believe in or are interested in the joining of all growers together for the purpose of dominating or monopolizing the industry—we do believe, however, that we should be sufficiently strong to command respect and recognition from business, from industry and from labor. This obviously places us in a position to do business as gentlemen with gentlemen on friendly co-operative terms.

The first and foremost activity of our organization is the conduct of an efficient, effective, economical marketing program, whereby Pennsylvania quality potatoes can be made available to consumers in sufficient quantity with dependability. We were told in years gone by that "it would not be done." We say it **can be done—it is being done.** Emphasis is being constantly placed upon quality, quantity, with dependability. Some of our friendly enemies are still wondering—how come? Of the millions of consumer packages placed upon Pennsylvania's market in the past years, less than one per cent have been proven below standard grade.

Our number one interest is the consumer paper package—we have pioneered it and popularized it, and others have followed rapidly along. It is our purpose and aim to steadily improve our pack so that when this war is over and normal times return we will have our rightful place in our home markets, not to the exclusion of all others, but on a par with all competitors. **Now** is the time for Pennsylvania Potato Growers to build a reputation of consumer acceptance. With the help and co-operation of all agencies and organizations we can plan for a possible post-war recession.

Our sales offices have become most efficient in seeking out buyers and in distributing potatoes in consumer packages and burlap bags. The price structure maintained throughout our four distinct areas has been instrumental in stabilizing the markets. Variations of prices in areas have been due to available competitive supplies in that particular area. The Philadelphia market for instance is seriously affected early in the season because of the nearness of New Jersey supplies and boat importations from Prince Edward Island. The Altoona-Johnstown market is influenced by supplies of small growers without storage facilities who become panicky just before freezing weather. All growers, whether members or participating members of this Association or not, definitely benefit through our price structure.

We are constantly alert to new uses and new outlets. As an association, we propose to find profitable sales for size B, Commercial and Unclassified grades, hitherto drugs on the market with definite depressing effects on U. S. No. 1 grades. Potato chip manufacturers and dehydrators are more interested than ever before. We propose to service them wherever and whenever possible. We hope to investigate the possibilities and perhaps to encourage and foster the establishment of canneries, alcohol and starch factories in surplus areas.

We are interested in the whole potato picture and all potato growers whether they are members of this association or not. We welcome new members with the hope that they will become enthusiastic co-operators and market Blue Label Potatoes "the Association Way." It does not seem quite fair to have our co-operators in "The Program" bear the entire burden of maintaining prices and maintaining the flow of potatoes to market when prices are high or low. However, we co-operators are not complaining. I am here reminded of a picture I saw the other day of a boy carrying another on his shoulders through snow, ice and sleet. The older lad seemed to have some difficulty — however, he looks up and says, "He ain't heavy, Father, honest, he's my brother." With this spirit we have prevailed through trials and hard-

ships for the good of the Potato Industry.

Camp Potato, "The Mecca" of Pennsylvania growers, has stood out as most prominent in the lives of our membership. It has been a proving ground for improved practices in planting, fertilizing, and cultivation of potatoes. Many machinery improvements and modernizations emanated from Camp Potato experiences. The development and propagation program of new seedling varieties, as conducted by Dr. E. L. Nixon, has been the greatest in the country. Thousands of growers over the entire nation and many foreign countries are interested in the new developments. All of the above we hope to continue provided war's necessary restrictions do not hamper us too seriously.

The "Camp" itself is ready for the post-war season when growers can again "get together" for spring, summer and fall visitations and observations.

A Junior Growers' association was formed two years ago with the single hope of bringing young people interested in agriculture's development together. As "Camp Potato" is a mecca for senior growers so should it be for junior growers. It is ideally suited and located for recreational and practical educational training.

A definite program for the encouragement of young people is within our function and our plans. The co-operation of all agencies and organizations will be solicited for this worthwhile activity.

Our number three activity is the publishing of "THE GUIDE POST," a publication second to none in the country. It is a positive means of keeping members posted on production and marketing problems. It is a contact between director, officers and growers. We do not propose to make this pamphlet a masterpiece or a work of art but we do propose to keep it practical and informative. It is not to do the thinking for our members but rather to present current practical developments in an interesting and worthwhile manner. The GUIDE POST has been in existence since 1922 and will continue to be in existence as long as we keep it practical and expressive of the desires of our membership.

In conclusion I want to say that this co-operative association has an ever broadening outlook upon the agriculture of this country. We are proving every day that co-operative effort is practical and worthwhile. Some of us feel that it is our destiny to broadcast far and wide that co-operation among farmers is the solution to many of the farmers' difficulties. Whenever and wherever we can, we will preach the good tidings so that others may join us or perhaps better still, may form similar organizations to the end that more of the consumers' dollar is placed in the hands of the producer himself who so rightfully deserves it. Ever mindful of the fact that when a product is handled, processed, rehandled and delivered by others, the producer and the consumer must pay and pay heavily for each and every service performed. The answer to us is obvious—co-operative assembling of products, co-operative grading and packaging and finally distributing our products by our own conveyances, by the shortest possible route, to the kitchen table.

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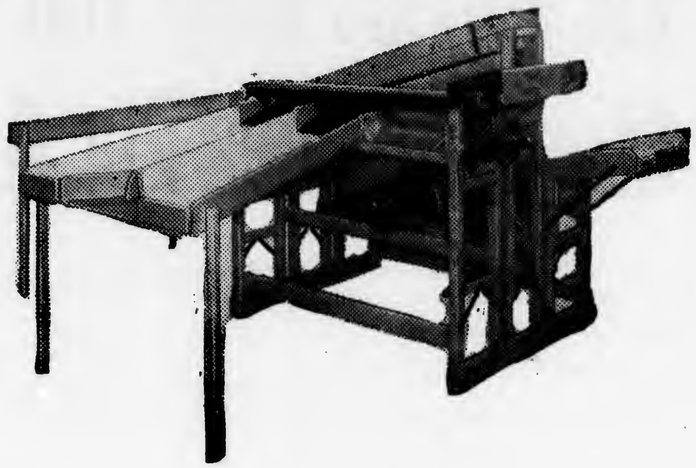

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Potatoes	**587 Bushels per acre.**
Dried Tobacco	**2512 Pounds per acre.**
Snap Beans	**7 Tons per acre.**
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Plowing Under Fertilizer—

Continued from page eight

the banding of fertilizer is sound. Equal depth banding which was the first step, has been modified so as to have one band high and the other at a greater depth. This latter development for use on soils free from stones or roots is a distinct improvement over equal depth banding because under dry weather conditions plants can feed on the lower band. Ideal in theory as this method may be, the fact its use is limited to stone-free, root-free soils, leaves open the road for research to find something that will do an even better and surer job of producing potatoes.

On numerous occasions Dr. E. L. Nixon has remonstrated with potato growers on the importance of fertilizer application. He has pointed out that poor stands and poor yields are really nothing but fertilizer injury, the direct result of failure to keep the planter distributor in proper adjustment. Unless the potato farmer learns to do a better job of operating his potato planter so as to place his fertilizer where it must be for satisfactory results, he will be unable to compete with those who do or who employ alternative methods of fertilizer application which will insure greater efficiency.

Results of field experiments on Pennsylvania potato farms in the opinion of the writer provide the best answer to our fertilizer application problems. These results dealing with fertilizer ratios as well as methods of application have been published each year in The Guide Post, so need not be repeated here. In brief, they have indicated that the present 1:2:2 and 1:3:3 ratios, as in 5-10-10 and 4-12-12 grades, are about our best bets for potatoes. There is definite evidence that somewhat larger amounts of fertilizer can be used with profit. And if recorded yields over a four year period on widely separated farms can be depended on, the evidence points to the desirability of plowing under at least half of the total fertilizer application, with the balance applied in equal depth bands at planting time. That this method has big possibilities would seem to be dictated by the average increase of approximately 45 bushels per acre for the practice. While the actual increases have varied rather widely between the different farms as can be seen in the table reporting 1944 results, the increases this year as well as in previous years have been highly significant in most cases. Certainly at the prevailing price of potatoes such increases represent clear profit.

Further field tests are being planned for 1945 in which recommended grades of fertilizer will be compared at 1,000 and 1,500 pound rates. In these tests all fertilizers in excess of 500 pounds will be broadcast and plowed under or placed on the furrow bottom with the I.H.C. plow sole attachment. Only 500 pounds will be applied in bands at planting.

AMERICAN POTASH INSTITUTE — 1944
RESULTS OF FERTILIZER APPLICATION EXPERIMENTS ON POTATOES

Name and Address of Farmer	Potato Variety	Analysis Fertilizer Used	Pounds per Acre	Yield Bus. per Acre Fertilizer In Band	Yield Bus. per Acre ½ Plowed Under ½ Band	Bushels Increase
C. L. Goodling Torresdale, Pa.	Cobbler	4-12-12	1,000	236.00	268.70	32.70
C. L. Goodling Torresdale, Pa.	Katahdin	4-12-12	1,000	369.35	382.88	13.53
Hershey Estates Hershey, Pa.	Sebago	4-12-12	1,000	186.66	255.50	68.84
E. L. Nixon State College, Pa.	Humas	4-12-12	1,000	174.00	202.98	28.98
E. L. Nixon State College, Pa.	Sebago	4-12-12	1,000	129.50	140.25	10.75
Wm. P. DeBerry Oakland, Md.	Green Mts.	4-12- 8	800	262.88	310.50	47.62
A. T. Blakeslee Blakeslee, Pa.	Sequoia	5-10-10	1,000	493.70	559.40	65.70

Remarks: Similar field experiments during the past four years have shown a consistent increase in yields of potatoes when the total fertilizer application was 800 or more pounds, in favor of plowing under one-half of the fertilizer with remaining half applied in bands.

THE RELATION OF AGRICULTURE TO NATIONAL PROSPERITY

by CHARLES B. RAY
Sears-Roebuck Company, Chicago

Substance of Address presented to the January Joint Conference of The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council and the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau.

The American people can have a national income of 140 billion dollars, necessary for full employment, after the war. But it depends on one definite requirement. This is an annual total farm income of around 20 billion dollars.

Whatever our afterwar national income may be, it will inevitably be very close to seven times the total farm income. Whether we enjoy the prosperity that is possible or suffer a needless depression, this ratio will hold true.

All the major interests in our economy are geared to the same controlling factor. The value of manufactures, labor pay rolls and employment, retail sales, transportation income and volume of construction work are limited by farm income. They follow its course, for better or worse, at an interval of roughly three to six months.

Our national balance sheet in any peacetime period, for all practical purposes, is regulated by the amount of farm production and the price levels at which it sells.

It has been known for some time that total farm income and factory pay rolls averaged practically the same amount over a long peacetime period. Also that the volume of factory output was governed by the balance maintained between the prices of finished goods and farm products. Farm income was clearly a barometer of purchasing power.

Several men had been carrying on studies, which convinced them that the relationship of raw materials and farm income to the rest of our economic machine went much farther and deeper. Among them were Carl H. Wilken, of the Raw Materials National Council at Sioux City, Iowa; Charles B. Ray, engineer and business counsellor of Chicago; and Dr. John Lee Coulter, former president of North Dakota Agricultural College and one-time member of the U. S. Tariff Commission. These men were made members of the research staff and did the work that led to these important new findings.

It shows, that raw-material income, most potently that of agriculture, is the prime mover in our national economy. It also demonstrates, for the first time, that there is a natural law—the law of exchange — which controls the whole complex system by which we live.

Raw-material income is the start of the cycle of exchange. It is the new wealth annually created by production. All other money, involved in the process of manufacture and delivery to the consumers, is money temporarily borrowed from the store of capital already in existence and is returned to it when the finished goods are sold.

This much was fairly well known before. What the research men found is that there is a rate of turnover to this raw-material income as it passes through the various stages of economic use. This is the key to the whole matter. For the national income is then simply the amount of raw-material income times the rate of turnover. The nation's wage fund, the manufacturing output possible and the amount of public purchasing power are fixed by this turn of raw-material dollars.

Going back into the records for nearly a century, the research men found this rule constantly at work, setting the bounds of the nation's income. The rule did not vary, but the rate of turn has accelerated, due to the increased efficiency in both raw-material production and manufacturing. In 1850 one half of our labor force was required in the production of raw materials, and the turnover was only twice. By 1925-29 our national efficiency had risen so that a much smaller part of our population was required to produce the raw materials and the turn for the five-year period averaged 3.9. It is now up to a fivefold turn, with only one fifth of our working population engaged in raw-material production. The other four fifths are now enabled to earn their living by taking the raw materials to the factories, processing them, distributing the finished goods and performing other services called for by our standard of living.

But the amount of raw-material production and the prices it brings determine the amount of national income that can be distributed among these other groups. The new income this provides is the starter for the whole machinery of exchange. If large, the machine runs at full speed. If small, the machine slows down and we have bad times. For the rate of turnover operates as an economic constant.

Agriculture supplies 65 per cent of our raw materials and its income is the most sensitive and powerful part of this combination. Its products are mostly the kind that are quickly used up, either in processing or direct consumption. Iron, copper, coal and oil can be held, and the income from them enters more slowly into the process of exchange. But farm products quickly become buying power. Also farm income is distributed among a much greater number of individuals and affects the buying power of vastly more communities over the nation.

So the dollar of agricultural income has a larger influence and a higher rate of turnover. For the period from 1921 to 1940 the national income averaged seven dollars for each dollar of total farm income. This general average held during the good times of the 1920's, the depression and the unsuccessful efforts to restore prosperity in the 1930's. In each case the rise or fall of farm income

precede the same course of the rest of our economy.

Thus farm income appears to be the key factor in our system of making a living. It becomes of tremendous importance to all our afterwar plans for the full use of our machines and tools and the employment of an increased labor force. These plans cannot work unless an adequate farm income is provided.

In fact, as Carl H. Wilken, one of the men engaged in the research, remarked, "all other groups should insist on proper farm prices if they wish to have a job at an American price level."

Parity farm prices consequently become a national necessity. The United States has never had a depression when farm prices were at parity. Our troubles always came when farm prices fell out of line with others. With a reduced farm income, every industrial and trade group lost its proportionate share of the turnover that might have been had. The loss of national income or purchasing power, through the failure to maintain proper farm prices over the 1930-41 period, is put by this research study at the gigantic figure of $473,000,000,000.

When Everybody Loses

If anyone doubts the results of reduced farm income and the sequence of its results, two years stand as grim evidence. In 1928 and 1932 the farms of America produced substantially the same volume of all grains and livestock. But the market value or income from these products in 1932 was less than one half what it was in 1928. The national income also dropped to less than one half, maintaining an approximate seven-to-one-ratio. Factory pay rolls took a similar drop of more than one half. Automobile production fell from more than 4,000,000 to 1,186,000 cars. Value of construction fell even more sharply, showing the more durable type of goods are the hardest hit by the loss of purchasing power generated by farm income.

Farm income reached its low in 1932 and started to move up again in 1933. But the other elements in our economy followed the natural lag behind it. Salaries and wages, value added by manufacture, construction and transportation all reached their low in 1933 and did not start their recovery until the turnover of increased farm dollars began to take effect. This was true through the whole outlay of consumer expenditures—for clothing, housing, insurance, auto registration fees, amusements and education. All had to wait until the turnover of new income reached them.

Another instance is what happened in the two years 1937-38. Farm income rose nearly one billion dollars in 1937. National income went up approximately seven billion and we seemed to be pulling out of difficulty. But with a larger farm production in 1938, prices weakened and farm income dropped almost exactly one billion dollars. National income fell almost exactly seven billion, with the loss spread all along the line. Manufacturing, employment, wages and salaries, construction and transportation all suffered their proportionate cut. All started to rise again with the upturn in farm income in 1939.

Consumers Gain Too

The Administration explained the 1938 recession by saying that Government spending had been reduced too soon. But Government spending merely represented money borrowed from the store of capital already in existence. The actual reason was the failure to maintain the flow of new income. It had slackened at its source—on the farms—and consumer purchasing power had fallen accordingly.

Consumers, do not gain from low farm prices but always lose. At the bottom of the depression, although farm prices were disastrously low, the share of the consumers' total income required for food was the highest in a decade. This was because their total income was proportionately low. In 1938, when farm prices dropped consumers did not benefit from lower food prices. The share of their income spent for food remained the same because their total income had declined in ratio with farm income. On the other hand, in 1943-44, although farm prices were at or above parity, the share of consumers' total income required for food has been the lowest in history. Their income has been at the highest level in history. Under normal peace time conditions, the large balance left after food needs were satisfied would be spread over the whole outlay of employment-making wants — clothing, automobiles, housing and conveniences, radios, amusements and many other items.

At the close of the war we shall require something like the present national income and balance of consumer purchasing power.

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Philip Antes, Lycoming
Ed Fisher, Potter
Paul Seal, Lycoming
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Lawrence Getz, Carbon
J. W. Warner, Indiana
Vernon Bishop, Bucks
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VISION
The GUIDE POST
PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS

The experts demonstrate their wares. W. W. Trainter, A.B. Farquhar, engineer, Doc Nixon as schoolmaster, Ed Fisher demonstrating what goes wrong with the picker mechanism, worn lugs, weak springs, dull or bent spikes, loose rivets equals missing hills.

MARCH — 1945

VOLUME XXII **NUMBER 3**

The GUIDE POST

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE GUIDE POST

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Volume XXII **March, 1945** **Number 3**

The Ruts In Rural Pennsylvania

Summary of Second Months Discussion Groups by Dr. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

The second month's discussion groups were made up of (1) The nine directors of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association and M. L. VanWegen, Don Stearn, Ivan Miller, C. F. H. Wuesthoff, J. M. Hindman, Herb Sallada and Robert Lohr, Jr.

(2) The above and in addition the seven directors of the York County Potato Growers' Association, a dozen other potato growers, Mr. Fisher, president of the A. B. Farquhar Company and other officials of this company. Also Loyal D. Odhner, managing director and Andrew Clarke, publicity director of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council.

(3)) P. D. Frantz, Roy T. Wotring, F. J. Sell, Reuben Ringer, George Heintzelman, C. J. Geiger, Irwin Frantz. C. E. Snyder, W. S. Weaver, Rev. Bond and Rev. Heinly.

All three groups discussed fully the topic, **"Should the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers Interest Itself in a Program of Rural Improvement?"** The discussion this month as last was open and free. This month as last we set out to discuss problems in Potato Production. This month as last much time was devoted to Rural Betterment.

No one perhaps in the state is better qualified to speak on this subject with the kind of authority that works, than the potato grower. To succeed he has to build and maintain soil fertility of necessity then he is a **builder,** the most basic in all our economy. He knows that if he loses his grip on the soil he is doomed to extinction. He sees, first hand, farms going out from soil depletion. He sees schools and churches closing their doors —he thinks he sees ghost towns following in their wake. He knows what it requires to succeed in the country. He knows that country life in America cannot be made to shine with apple sauce— it requires grit! He knows that it is worth the effort.

There is little wonder, with this background, that a program for rural improvement was unanimously indorsed by all three groups.

The question then became, what sort of program might be initiated? Leadership seemed to be the answer. No reason why the potato association should not take the initiative. Build around the

church as a center. What forces reach directly into the country? Church, family, Grange, direct markets, co-operatives, transportation, telephone, electric, school, press, radio. These, then, are the groups which might be expected to take the initiative in a program of "Rural Betterment."

Forces which are still more vitally concerned, though apparently far removed, are Chambers of Commerce, Service Clubs, City Churhes, and all Industry itself, for the city is not reproducing itself in population with its half baby per family and economically it is the farms that build the cities today as they built Chaldea, Rome and Carthage. The cities that forget agriculture today will seal their own doom with godless folk, sky scrapers, and empty courts tomorrow.

The very foundations of this country were laid in Christian concepts of life. How long may we expect to insure the permanency of our civilization with only 42 per cent of our present population church members.

When the nominal inactive are taken from this 42 per cent the picture takes on a somber hue.

In 1943 there were 2983 churches of a leading denomination receiving **no new** members. There were 10,236 that received only from one to twelve members.

In this same denomination more than one-third of all its ministers now in service will die or retire within ten years. It is estimated that from 1943-47 there will be 3275 superannuated ministers with an equivalent interval replacement of only 2284. These are about average figures for all denominations.

In discussing a plan of action, it was pointed out that rural ministers were poorly paid and that they too are pointed in their training for city congregations and city attitudes toward the country.

One of the ways to rejuvenate the rural church and rural Pennsylvania is to place more of the consumer's dollar back in rural Pennsylvania where it belongs. This should be done not in the round-about "Robin Hood's Barn" method of State and Government aid institutions and all the accompanying political implications, but by more direct marketing and rural processing for consumer acceptance as near to the farm as possible.

New York City is no place to assemble run-of-the-roost or run-of-the-farm commodities in bulk to be placed in consumer-acceptable packages. What is not acceptable exacts as much freight as what is. And then it costs to dispose of garbage in any city. And the producer pays this bill in the end.

In addition, it costs money to prepare consumer packages. It costs more in the city than it does in the country.

For example just last week a potato grower paid a city crew $70.00 to add one pound of potatoes to 700 peck packages. Of this amount $26.00 went for potatoes and the rest—$44.00—was for labor. Ask J. K. Mast how he would like to have $44.00 for packing 700 pecks of potatoes.

We need to decentralize labor in the farm produce business—Rural Pennsylvania must get away from streamline mass production accompanied by farm run, bulk shipments to centers of population for processing. These families who do this processing for a livelihood would be better off in the county with 5 babies per family instead of the little half baby per city family. They would be better off attending an evening prayer meeting in a beautiful church in the country than spending a whole night in a night club. We need a force that will make people want to do this. Who or what can supply this force?

Industry can help decentralize itself by placing more of its operations in the country and in noting is it needed more than in food production and distribution. Farms should produce less per farm and process more, thus giving more work to more boys and girls; more of the consumer's dollar to more rural people.

The Pennsylvania Potato Marketing Plan is doing just this, and a lot more than 39 cents of the consumer's dollar is going back to the producer.

Another topic discussed was—Should the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association actively, if not aggressively, identify itself with the National Safety Council movement? The answer was unequivocally—yes. There were almost 100,000 (97,500) total accidents in the country in 1943. Of these 32,500 persons were killed in the home, over 16,000 the result of falls.

This is 400 per cent more fatalities than experienced in our first year's participation in World War II. We view with alarm and are rightly appalled at war losses but scarcely bat an eye at our home front losses due to carelessness and definitely preventable accidents.

Merchantable Stocks Held By Growers and Local Dealers

PENNSYLVANIA potato stocks as of March 1 were only 3,000,000 bushels compared with 3,700,000 bushels on the same date a year previous and 2,000,000 bushels on March 1, 1943. Estimated production in 1942 was 17,584,000 bushels, in 1943 18,656,000 bushels and in 1944 19,140,000 bushels.

	March 1		
Surplus Late States	1943	1944	1945
	THOUSAND BUSHELS		
Maine	14,200	20,400	20,050
New York	3,200	4,900	3,600
Pennsylvania	2,000	3,700	3,000
Michigan	2,600	6,000	3,650
North Dakota	3,100	5,700	5,250
Idaho	5,000	8,500	6,250
TOTAL 18 SURPLUS LATE	43,150	70,680	52,950

Blue Label Movement

(Peck Equivalents to March 1, 1945)

Pennsylvania Blue Label potato movement for the 1944-45 season is most gratifying. Weather conditions, car shortage, road hazards, all contributed to somewhat of a slow-up for the month of February which totaled 843,736. This, however, compares most favorably with the February sales for 1944 which were only 475,743 peck equivalents. The grand total for the 1944-45 season thus far is 4,702,506. The twenty highest counties in sales for this season are as follows:

Erie
Lehigh
Somerset
Lancaster
Columbia
Cambria
Warren
Chester
Carbon
Monroe
Venango
Potter
Schuylkill
York
Luzerne
Northampton
Crawford
Lycoming
Indiana
Centre
Grand Total — 4,702,506

Prosperity in Relation to Rural Life

by Carl F. Taeusch
Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture
This Address was presented at the Potato Growers Annual Meeting at Harrisburg, January 11, 1945

In this day of airplanes and common talk about the stratosphere, it should not be difficult for a philosopher to encourage folks to take an elevated position now and then, even up among the clouds, where we may obtain a bird's-eye view of the situation and where we can see the outlines of the forest and not be bothered too much by the individual trees. And while we are having the broader look, we may as well also view the past briefly, not for its own sake, but in order to be better prepared for the future.

Just what has been happening in this country, especially as regards agriculture? During a period of just a little more than 300 years, this country has been populated with some 130 million people; by a migration which swept westward across the continent on a scale which compares with the greatest migrations of history. Thereby we pushed the East-West boundary westward to the Pacific, before modern rapid transportation and communication facilities were so highly developed or were available to Asia. And this means that the latest phase of the East-West world struggle is being fought out in the western Pacific rather than on the shores of California, or in the Rocky Mountains or on the Great Plains.

This great westward migration had its effects on our Eastern seaboard, however remote we may seem to have been from the frontier. Farm land was abandoned for the more promising soils of the Middle West and the Great Plains; and for years before it was abandoned, it was neglected and overcropped and mined. The more ambitious of our people, the more obstreperous, the younger men and women, were going West, to develop there the "rugged individualism" of the frontier. The more conservative remained in the East. And for a long time this situation dominated our economy and our politics, as the Granger and other rural movements surged from the West to beat on a conservative, industrial East.

During the Civil War — or, as our Southern friends prefer to call it, the War Between the States—the West combined with the East to preserve our national unity; a fortunate event, we now all admit. But, in more recent years, it was a combination of South and West which finally forced upon the nation a policy which gave adequate recognition to the place which agriculture should have in our national economy. But when the farmer of the West and South began to formulate national agricultural policies to meet his economic difficulties; then the Eastern farmer began to recognize a common problem, nation-wide, in which he also was involved.

The eastern farmer has constantly been forced to meet the competition of the increasing production of our expanding agricultural areas. Now this increasing production is being intensified. For something of major magnitude has been happening in American agriculture the last 7 or 8 years. Previously, for some 70 or 75 years following the War Between the States, our production of staples like corn, cotton and wheat was constantly increasing. But this year-by-year increase was due almost entirely to increasing acreage, indicating the opening up of the West. During this entire 75-year period, national average yields per acre were practically constant: 26 bushels of corn, 180 pounds of cotton, 13 or 14 bushels of wheat. Land was cheaper than labor, so we increased our production by increasing our cultivated acreage rather than by more intensive farming.

But around 1937, something began to happen. With the development of the Adjustment Program, the acreage of these three staple crops had actually been somewhat reduced; and it was to be expected that yields per acre would increase as the better land was retained in cultivation and more intensively cultivated. But this was not the whole story. The soil was being improved, and the cumulative effect of this potential factor in the ever-normal granary finally began to crop out in the form of increased yields. Better farm management, more mechanization, rotation of crops, better seed selection, more fertilizer and lime, improved cultivation, and the more extensive use of insecticides, all contributed to higher yields per acre from around 1937 on than this

country had ever known. True, we have had unusually good weather during this recent 8-year period, but even this has been a relatively minor factor. Corn yields rose to an 8-year national average of 30 or more; cotton yields went up to 250 pounds per acre; wheat went up to almost 16 bushels per acre for the 8-year period, 1937-44. Potato yields have gone up from around 100 bushels to around 130 bushels per acre, as a national average. Something new has been happening in agriculture recently. And the real significance of this event is that it results from increasingly intelligent farming; we are no longer so completely at the mercy of the weather as we used to be.

Now, it is true that mere physical quantity is not necessarily an index of money returns. But the facts show that the increasing national average yields in our staple crops in recent years have resulted also in increasing gross returns per acre, even in comparison with previous war periods when prices were higher. Corn has been grossing almost as much per acre during the past four years at 90 cents to $1.10 per bushel, as it did during the First World War at $1.40 per bushel. Cotton, during the past four years, has grossed more per acre at 20 cents per pound, than it did in the previous war at an average of 27 or 28 cents per pound. And wheat at $1.10 to $1.40 per bushel has been grossing some 80 per cent as much per acre during the past four years as it did in World War I, when wheat was $2.00 to $2.15 per bushel. Potatoes, in the eight highest price years preceding 1937 (1916-21, 1925, 1926), including the First World War years, grossed some $140 per acre as a national average; with an average price of $1.40 per bushel, and with no annual average price of less than $1.10 during that time. But during the past four years, with prices averaging $1.18 per bushel, the potato farmer has averaged a gross, over the nation as a whole, of $159 per acre. That is what higher yields are doing to farm income; and that increased income is obviously not being made at the expense of the consumer's pocketbook. That is good farming.

Intensive agriculture may run into costs which may net less per acre than these gross figures would indicate. But we do seem to be in the midst of a period of agricultural development in this country, in which increasing yields are the order of the day. What this means to the small farmer, if he gets in step with this more intensive form of agriculture is that the income on that small farm can be appreciably increased. And the added costs can be absorbed by a better utilization of the labor of the small farm family—one of the greatest pools of unused labor still remaining in this country.

But there remains the important factor of quality, especially important in relation to prices and farm income. Quality does bring better prices, as a general rule. To obtain the full benefits of this admittedly superior method of securing markets and better prices, the farmer needs to know how his products are handled and in what condition they reach the ultimate consumer. May improved quality become as effective in increasing the potato farm income or the returns per acre as have increased yields? It will, if the farmer controls enough of the distribution channels to secure for himself that increased price on the market. Are you keeping ahead of that development, as you did for so long on this Eastern seaboard? Is a Pennsylvania potato so good in quality as to command higher prices in the market? Do housewives know this? Do we need more spuds or better spuds?

In considering this matter, let us bring into the picture that typical Pennsylvania farm, where we shall think not only of the dollars and cents in income, but rather of what that money will buy: improved machinery and buildings and home equipment to lessen the drudgery of farm and household work; clothing and books for the children who, after all is said and done, constitute the most important crop on any farm; the ability of the farmer and his family to help support the neighborhood church, the school istelf, and to attend both with self-respect; to have good roads and a shopping center where merchants will be encouraged by his better purchases to stock up with goods which farm people want and need. Let us think also of that co-operative, which not only grows strong in proportion as the quantity and quality of its products improve; but also which becomes a desirable social and human institution in proportion as its membership is prosperous and self-respecting. Let us also think of this great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and of the nation, which can be proud of its independent citizens—independent eco-

Continued on page twenty-three

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

1945 INTENDED POTATO PLANTINGS

Federal-State Crop Reporting Service

	1934-43 Acreage Planted	Yield	1944 Acres	1945 Acres (Intended)
New Jersey	56,000	173	71,000	71,000
Maine	163,000	280	201,000	211,000
New York	217,000	162	195,000	280,000
Michigan	248,000	96	174,000	160,000
North Dakota	148,000	89	180,000	171,000
PENNSYLVANIA	188,000	118	167,000	157,000
18 Surplus States	1,979,400	131	1,836,400	1,810,000
United States	3,130,000	120	3,009,700	2,892,800

Pennsylvania potato growers indicate that they intend to plant 157,000 acres, 6 per cent less than 1944, primarily on account of shortage of help. Seed is high in price and in some localities scarce. Some growers will increase their acreage on account of their rotation system while others will decrease for the same reason. The few not limited by the foregoing factors who will increase their acreage believe there will be an increased need and demand in 1945-46.

Machinery Adjustment Conferences

The York County Machinery Adjustment Conference, Thursday, March 8th, under the auspices of The Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, The York County Potato Growers, The A. B. Farquhar Company and the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, proved to be a most practical and profitable venture for growers, manufacturers and businessmen. Over 200 York and neighboring county growers were present with questions, suggestions and positive answers. As a result of this meeting we can easily expect 40 to 50 bushel per acre increases.

Hugh McPherson, President of the York County Potato Growers, and a director of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, called the meeting to order and after a few timely and fitting remarks presented W. M. Chambers, Sales Manager of the Farquhar Company, who in turn introduced William J. Fisher, President of the A. B. Farquhar Company. Mr. Fisher extended a cordial welcome to all potato growers and guests present. He emphasized the necessity of industry and agriculture working together for the betterment of both. He also stressed the importance of agriculture to the well-being and prosperity of our country.

Following Mr. Fisher's remarks, Mr. Chambers presented Dr. W. W. Tranter, Chief Engineer of the Company, Jim Kuester of the advertising department, together with Messrs. Harry Hollinger and Norman Went, field representatives. After all formal introductions were made, Mr. Chambers turned over the meeting to Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, who in his usual capable, informal manner, proceeded to the work of the day.

Under the above guidance and direction of Dr. E. L. Nixon and Dr. W. W. Tranter, three vital phases of potato production were demonstrated, explained and illustrated. Potato planter adjustment and operation in relation to fertilizer and seed placement occupied the greater part of the forenoon session. Greatest emphasis was placed upon the necessity of placing uniformly-cut seed between 3 inches and 4 inches deep and the fertilizer 6 to 8 inches on each side of the seed piece in bands on level with or slightly beneath the seed piece. To do all this all adjustment must be made properly—fertilizer boots must be kept spread and perhaps braced apart, front discs must open a furrow sufficiently deep with the planter shoe floating freely, picker springs and points must operate freely through a **race track** that is functioning, the stub tongue should be almost parallel to the seed bed. All the above and more was most thoroughly shown and explained.

During the morning the York County Growers had a brief business meeting which included the re-election of the present board of directors, namely: Frank Knerr, Christ Musser, L. O. Thompson, B. S. Meckley, H. H. Flinchbaugh, Collie Workinger and H. C. McPherson. This county group voted to appropriate $100 as prizes to five boys growing the best potatoes in the county. The final rules of the contest to be formulated at a later date. Following the business session the assembled group was the luncheon (consisting of oysters as you like 'em) guest of the Farquhar Company.

More Machinery Conferences

Our first machinery adjustment conferences or schools were acclaimed by hundreds to be the last word in timely practical application of fundamental principles of good potato production. The cooperation of growers, manufacturers of farm machinery and the Chain Store Council in the interest of increased efficiency of production was most apparent. They are to be commended for their fine unselfish attitudes.

Since our initial ventures were such glowing successes and in response to definite requests, four similar conferences are scheduled. These meetings will be called in the following places to satisfy the interest and demand in their respective areas:

Clayton Snyder's, Neffs, Lehigh Co., March 22nd.

Donaldson Supply, Titusville, Crawford Co., April 4th.

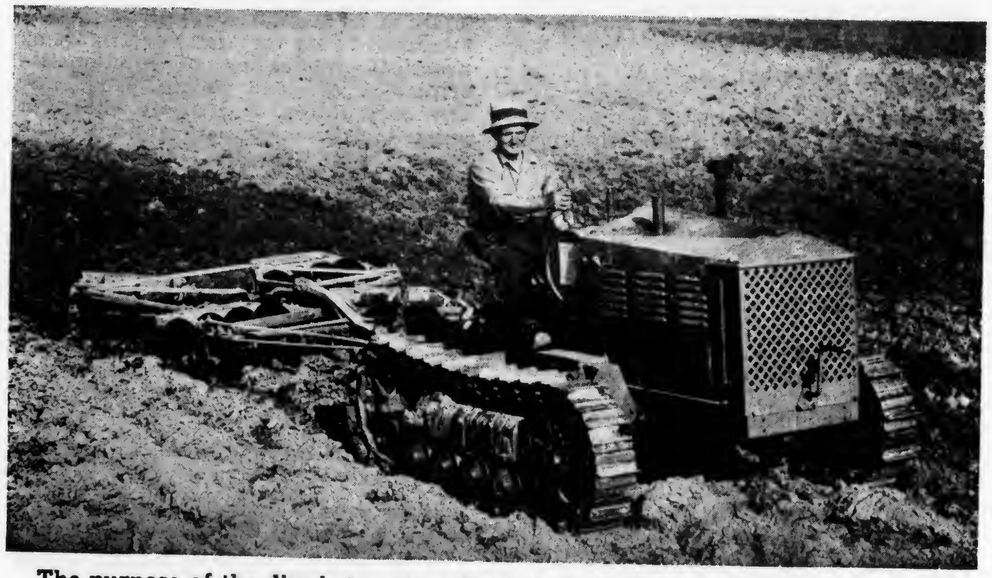
E. R. Sporey Shop, Davidsville, Somerset Co., April 10th

M. P. Whitenight & Son, Bloomsburg, Columbia Co., April 19th.

Critical Fitting and Planting Jobs

The conclusions of the discussion groups on seed bed preparation and planting are portrayed in the accompanying illustrations.

The Chisel—The ideal root bed for potatoes is one that is worked from the bottom up—not packed from the top down.



The purpose of the disc is to cut up trash so that other tools will operate freely. Trash (cover crops) should be incorporated in the upper layers of the soil—not plowed down in the bottom to prevent capillary moisture from coming up from the sub-soil—the real source of moisture in dry summer.

The heavy spring type tooth is quite effective in working soil from the bottom up. Note that Director J. K. Mast's foot is completely buried in a deep, loose root bed, well areated, enormous water collecting capacity, and if filled with an abundance of humus well mixed in the soil possesses tenaceous moisture holding capacity.

Cutting seed is still a labor consuming job—if it is done well. There are many devices for speeding it up. Seed should be uniform and blocky so it plants more accurately. After all every seed piece must have at least one eye if it grows.

Know what you are doing — Cut a bushel the way you think they ought to be cut. Weigh and calculate or count how many seed pieces in a bushel.

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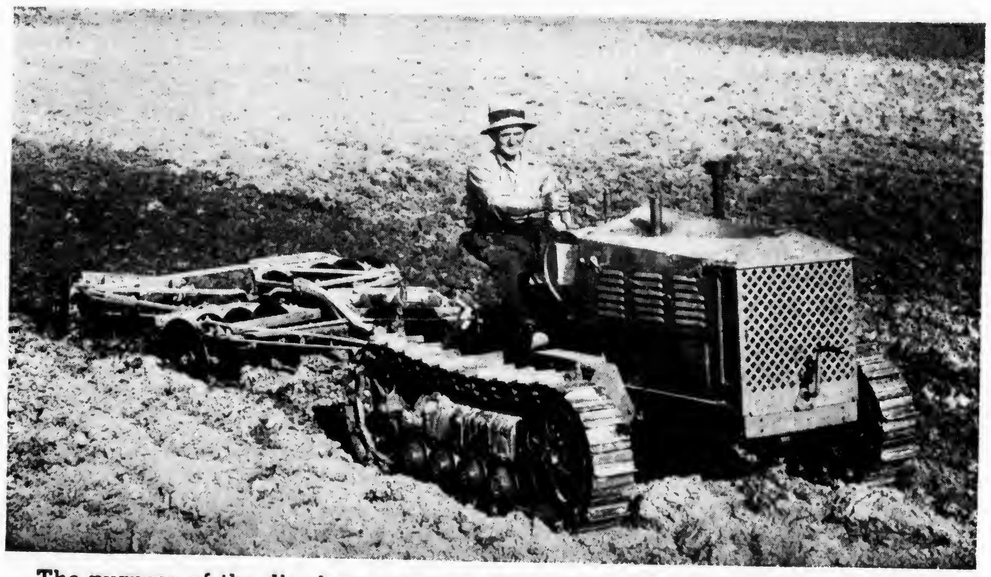

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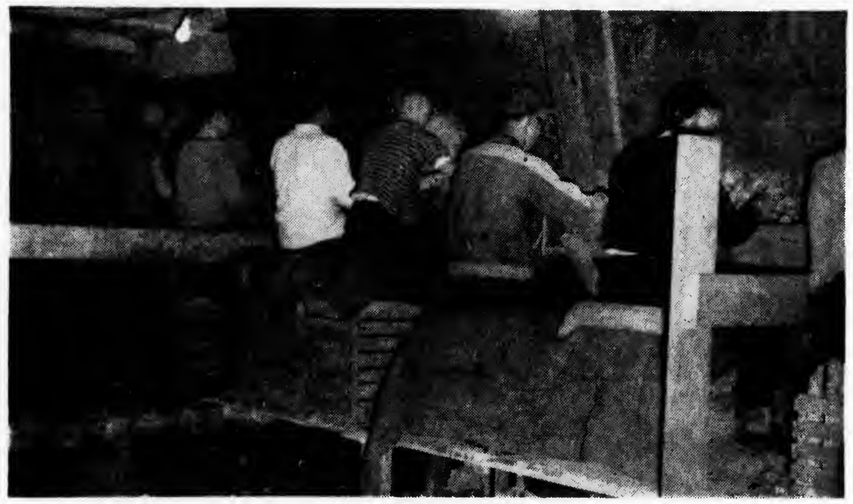

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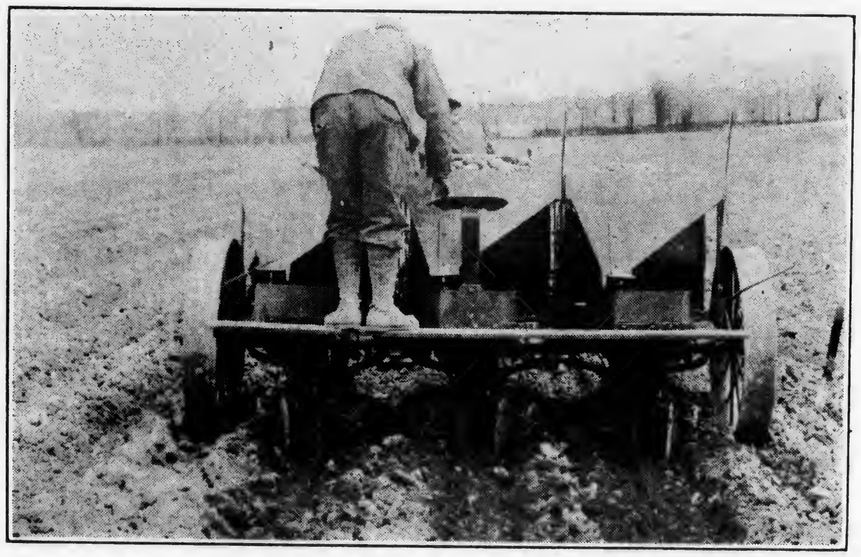
INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

Illustrating the difference in the relative amount of seed required when cut into the three sizes or weights. From the table below you can determine the amount required per acre.

¾ Oz.	1½ Oz.	2 Oz.
10 x 30 = 16 bu. per A.	32 bu. per A.	43 bu. per A.
14 x 30 = 12 bu. per A.	23 bu. per A.	31 bu. per A.
10 x 32 = 15 bu. per A.	29 bu. per A.	40 bu. per A.
14 x 32 = 11 bu. per A.	22 bu. per A.	30 bu. per A.



The way a properly set planter leaves the surface. This was the first planter made and set to do it this way by the late Fred H. Bateman.

Opening discs properly set for placing the fertilizer bands. Note that the hubs are completely covered by the loose soil. If the hubs show it is evident that the fertilizer is not going deep enough. See center spread for other details.

After all the only way to know what kind of job you are doing is to open up the planted furrow and measure it. Don't assume, don't guess. The ideal is 3½" below the level and no fudging!

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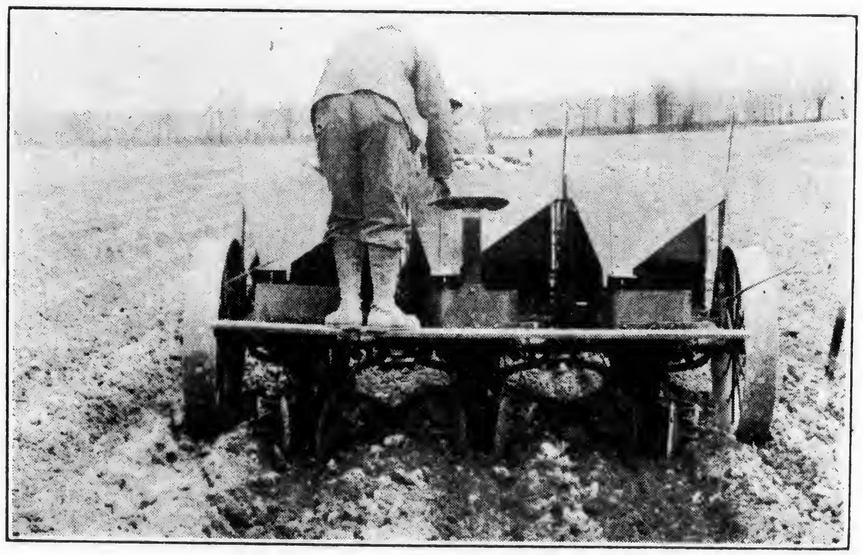

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

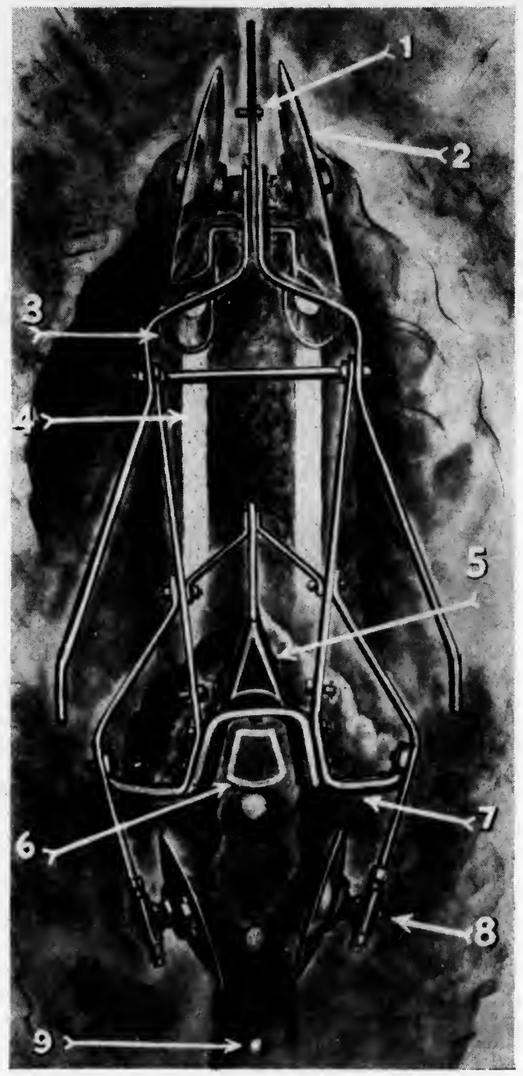
FERTLIZER IN RELATION TO SEED PLACEMENT

Dr. E. L. Nixon, ricultural Counsellor,
Pennsylvania in Store Council

ATTENTIO TO DETAILS

So much has been said and written about **needed repairs** that one would th that every piece of Potato Equipment in America is ready to go. Mr. Ramseyer often says, "You are not ready until you are going." Of course the major framew is intact; more than likely the wheels will turn; but how about the detailed mechanism? Are the plow points on? Are there any spare bolts and nuts? Where are y? A few simple wrenches, picker points, cultivator teeth, screw driver, yard stick? In addition to all of these and many more which will be called for, most **ailed adjustments** can be made **only in the field.**

Consider the details of the planting mechanism in the illustration at the l **(make a similar analysis of your plow, disc, weed hog, chisel, and cutting box).**



1. The point of attachment of opening gang. Lengthening or shortening this attachment or raising owering the tongue or both determines the depth of applying the fertir, and to a large extent the depth of planting.

2. The disc. Is it worn? The of the disc is also a factor in depth of fertilizer application, and of pla g.

3. Refers to the fertilizer boots is these that are responsible for placing the fertilizer right at the **bottom** the disc impression. These boots are easily bent and twisted. If they out of line, the fertilizer is not placed where it **belongs** at the bottom o disc impressions.

4. The bands of fertilizer—"on level with or slightly below the seed piece." If 1, 2, and 3 are not pr adjusted these fertilizer bands will not be properly placed. **Fifty bus of potatoes per acre can be knocked off right here.**

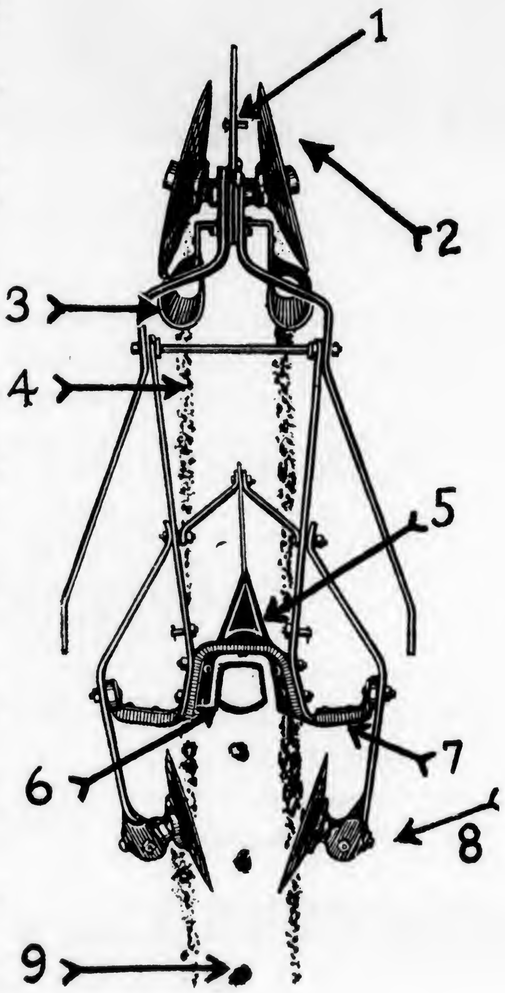
5. The planting shoe. See tha runs exactly equi-distant between the fertilizer bands. The tendency owers is to run this shoe deeper than the opening discs go. The openins determine the depth of the fertilizer. The planting shoe determines the pth of the seed piece. The fertilizer should be "on a **level** with or **sli below** the seed piece." The planting shoe wears off fast—watch it or will be planting too shallow. It occasionally gets bent or twisted. Thflects the seed pieces often right onto one of the fertilizer bands. **Anot fifty bushels might be lost here.**

6. The seed boot. This is easi nt, battered at the bottom or shoved full of soil in backing, deflecting seed pieces. Keep it in 100 per cent condition.

7. An important place where thvering discs can be adjusted by spreading or closing the gangs. The covg discs should not be set to dig up the bands of fertilizer and **pile them** op of the **seed pieces. Here might go still another fifty bushels!**

8. The place of changing **the a** of the disc. Set this angle in relation to the adjustment made at 7. Thgle of the disc determines how deep or how shallow the seed is covered.

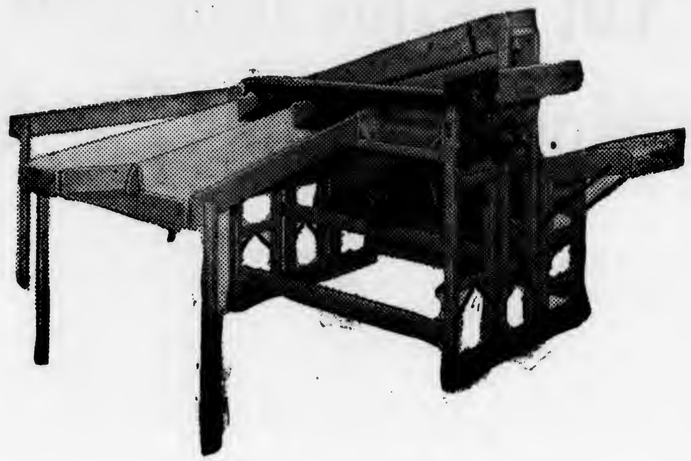
9. The seed pieces properly pd—as to proper **depth,** as to its **position** in relation to the fertilizer b, as to the per cent of **misses** reflecting the accuracy of the picking mecsm, as to proper **covering.** Follow up your planter closely examining tob it is doing by opening up a section of the planted rows until you hat adjusted to do the job the way you want it. Always with the questio**st what do I want to accomplish with this operation?**



TIGHT BINDING TEXT CUT OFF

Director Ed Fisher turns artist. He draws the way a cross section of a planted furrow looks to him, showing seed piece, fertilizer bands, and the soil surface as the planter leaves it.

Trescott Peach Defuzzer and Sizer



Two Sizes of Peach Machines Available:

1-Roll with Tables—Capacity 400 Bu. per day

2-Roll with Dist. Belt—Cap. 800 Bu. per day

* * *

O. K. Champion One and Two Row Potato Diggers

Boggs Hand and Power Potato Graders

Boggs Potato Binloaders and Sack Elevators

Trescott Apple Graders and Cleaners

Vac-A-Way Seed and Grain Cleaners and Graders
Conde Milking Machines

J-M Transite Pipe for Agricultural Purposes

Wizard Garden Tractors with B & S Engine

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"RAIN-O-MATIC" Portable Power Pumping Units

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Hamilton & Company has designed and sold Irrigation Systems for many different crops grown on over 100,000 acres. We invite your irrigation problems and our Irrigation Engineering Service is always available to you. We will gladly plan your complete Irrigation System, including necessary pipe, valves, fittings, pump, sprinklers, engine or mounted portable power pumping unit and furnish you with an estimate. Write us today.

A FEW IRRIGATED PRODUCTION RESULTS:

Potatoes	587 Bushels per acre.
Dried Tobacco	2512 Pounds per acre.
Snap Beans	7 Tons per acre.
Tomatoes	17 Tons per acre.
Peas	4 Tons per acre.
Alfalfa	5 Cuttings per year.

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Prosperity in Rural Life—

Continued from page eight

nomically as well as politically; not only when election day comes around and they can cast their secret ballot, but every day in the year, when they can feel free to talk up to and criticize their government.

Let us think also of the effect of an intelligent farm opinion on our industrial and commercial and banking economy, which will have to devise means for maintaining employment, if farm people are to have markets and reasonable prices and adequate incomes. We must retain the individual initiative that goes along with private property; but when our economic units become so large as to affect our national economy vitally, it becomes a part of the ordinary citizen's business to see that these industrial and business enterprises are operated in the public interest as well as for private profit. There is no line fence, even bounding that small Pennsylvania farm, which can keep international affairs and national events from invading that farm and home; there should therefore be no line fence confining the farmer's thinking within his own house or barn. He needs to study these things that are vitally affecting him, and he needs to have the wherewithal to provide his children with the knowledge and understanding of what is to come.

The American farmer has shown, in the last eight years, that he is going in for more intensive farming. And that means that he is grossing more per acre at lower prices than he enjoyed in the other World War. To achieve this result, he is farming more intelligently and his labor and that of his hired hand are becoming increasingly efficient. This means not only increased national farm income accruing to a relatively few farmers, but increased earnings per acre mean that the smaller farms of this country can increase and probably have increased their earnings appreciably. The American farmer should plan for the post-war possibilities, and the economists are warning us that we shall again have over-production then. But if depressions are as much the result of under-consumption as of over-production, why not do some planning so as to encourage full consumption, the only way our mass production can be maintained on the farm as well as in our industrial cities? Can't we make economic sense out of increased production, a scientific and technological achievement in which we all should take pride?

Prosperity can come only with the opening up of international trade channels in a world at peace. Is it a part of the farmer's job to vote and talk and write and think about sound public policies directed toward that end? Doesn't even the small farmer have to study this problem, to save his farm and his family from becoming the victims of unsound and wrong public policies? Is it any of the farmer's business to see that our industrial economy is operated in the nation's interest as well as for the benefit of managers or stockholders, whose shortsighted policies have too often brought themselves down in the crashes that hurt us too? And when those questions are raised, and those criticisms are made, remember your farm and those of your neighbors, think of the church you attend and the school to which you send your children; they are the realities of our democracy. Our "prosperity" is to be measured in terms of their well-being.

Machinery Adjustment Conference

Wednesday, April 4th, 1945
at
Donaldson Farm Supply Company
205 East Diamond Street
Titusville, Penna.

A discussion group concurred in believing that a machinery adjustment school might easily result in increasing potato yields at least 50 bushels to the acre. For the grower this meeting might make the difference between success and failure this coming year. For the war effort it definitely means more food.

Auspices
Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association
A. B. Farquhar Company
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

10:00 a.m.—Planters: Fertilizer in Relation to Seed Placement. Discussion.
Luncheon.
1:30 p.m.—Cultivators: Progressive Adjustments of Weeders and Cultivators. Discussion.
Sprayers: Analysis of Quantity and Quality of Spray in Relation to Pressure. Discussion.

You and your grower friends are cordially invited to attend this production discussion.

Pending State Legislation

Growers should express their opinions through their representatives

SB 21. Letzler (R)—For the support of research and investigation directed toward the development and production of superior strains of crops and livestock and to develop more efficient methods of producing and marketing such products. (Passed second reading January 17. Recommitted to Committee on Agriculture January 22.)

SB 183. Dent (D) Thomas (R)—Provides for operator filling in (bituminous) strip mining excavations within one year of completion of operation at angle of not less than 45 degrees, and within 3 years planting of trees, shrubs or grasses on lands affected in accordance with plan of procedure prescribed by the Secretary of Forests and Waters. Provides for applications, bonding, payments(for forfeiture of bond), and penalties for non-compliance, through Secretary of Mines. Operator may plant similar area in lieu of area listed for reasonable cause and with consent. (Passed Senate (40-5) March 5. In the House, referred to Committee on Mines and Mining, March 6.)

HB 45. Greenwood (R. Wyoming)—Further amends Section 201, Act of 1929 to exempt from licensing registration all tractors and trailers including farm wagons and agricultural equipment drawn by tractors, used exclusively by a person on the farm or farms he owns or by a direct route on highways to his own or any other farm or to a garage for repair. (Acts of 1943 provided that only farm trailers be exempt from registration.) (Out of Committee on Motor Vehicles March 7.) (Passed first reading March 12.)

HB 48. Greenwood (R. Wyoming)—Exempts from registration all motor vehicles used exclusively by any person on his farm or farms he owns or operates or on highways connecting by the most direct route to farms owned in any one county or county next adjoining. Trailers and semi-trailers used by such persons in operation of farm or farms also exempted from registration. (Reported out of Committee on Motor Vehicles March 7.) (Passed first reading March 12.)

HB 80. Wood (R. Montgomery)—Amends emergency revenue Act of 1935, providing an excise tax on net incomes of certain corporations and joint stock associations, known as the "Corporate Net Income Tax Act." Passed the House February 7 (110 to 83). Passed second reading in the Senate February 27 with an amendment exempting agricultural co-operative associations from payment of the tax. Vote reconsidered March 6, and exemption for agricultural co-ops struck out March 13. Up for final passage March 22. (Plans were then under way to have agricultural co-ops exempted through amendment to one or more of House Bills 871, 872, 873 and 874.)

HB 161. Fleming (R. Allegheny)—Requires strip mining operators to replant all operations or equivalent, speci-

Continued on page twenty-eight

CAN AGRICULTURE HOLD ITS GAINS?

TODAY, farmers are soldiers of the Home Front charged with the responsibility of producing greater quantities of food than ever before, despite shortages of manpower, supplies and equipment.

Tomorrow, when peace comes, you will be 'demobilized." To a degree, like other demobilized soldiers, you will have to adjust yourself to a peace time economy. You will become once again a businessman whose success or failure will be determined by your ability to find and build markets.

Agricultural leaders are giving much thought to the questions of how successfully agriculture will bridge the gap from war to peace.

Will you producers be able to hold war-expanded markets? Will you be able to find new markets for the increased production likely to come with the return of adequate labor, equipment and supplies?

You are not alone in seeking answers to these questions, for the same problems concern the entire food industry—processors and distributors of food as well as producers.

We, too, know that the day will come for us, as it will for you, when instead of markets seeking food we will have food seeking markets.

How are we going to solve this common problem?

How are we going to build sound, stable markets for farm produce?

We don't pretend to know all the answers. But 85 years' experience in food distribution, through good times and bad, has taught us that you and we must apply certain fundamental business principles proven sound by all successful businessmen.

This means that despite recognized wartime limitations we must constantly strive to:

Give the consumer preferred varieties.

Give the consumer garden-fresh, quality food in the grade and pack that best serves her needs.

Give the consumer full food value for her dollar by eliminating unnecessary and wasteful handling operations and costs.

Because of the tremendous problem with which we are confronted, we cannot confine our efforts to the mere application of these business principles. It is heartening to note the general recognition in all branches of the food industry that we must also plan and experiment **now** in order to find and develop new and better ways to serve the consumer tomorrow.

Working with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Land Grant Colleges, the State Departments of Agriculture and the Agricultural Extension Service in the various states, A&P and other progressive distributors and growers are preparing now for the peacetime years through such exploratory activities as:

Surveys of production areas and methods to insure high-quality production of the varieties most in demand.
Studies to determine the most efficient and economical means of moving farm produce to market.

Experiments in pre-packaging of farm produce.

Development of better transportation methods by truck and train and plane.

Merchandising tests of tree and vine-ripened products.
Finding new by-product uses for inferior grades.
Testing of new methods of displaying and advertising and selling produce.

These are only a few of the many ways in which groups in the food industry are working together to do a better job of feeding the American public, with the thought that "he who serves best, profits most."

* * *

TODAY, agriculture is enjoying a wartime boom. Markets are expanded, farm income is up. But the same thing happened in the last war and the prosperity did not endure. It was followed by a collapse of farm prices so disastrous that 453,000 farmers lost their farms through mortgage foreclosures between 1922 and 1926.

WE MUST NOT LET THIS HAPPEN AGAIN!

Obviously we cannot forsee the national economic developments that can greatly affect the future of all of us in the food industry — growers and distributors alike.

But it is crystal clear that close cooperation between producers and distributors can mean more and better food for the American public; can make a tremendous contribution to a better future for American agriculture.

Uncle Sam Needs Timber—Cut and Haul Now While Prices Are Up!

Pending State Legislation—

Continued from page twenty-five

fying kinds of plants, trees, shrubs or grasses approved by Secretary of Mines. Includes greater detail on replanting than other proposed bills. (Referred to Committee on Mines and Mining January 22.)

HB 1104, introduced by Reps. Reagan (R) and Madigan (R), creates in the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture a State Soil Conservation Commission, and provides for the voluntary establishment of county-wide Soil Conservation Districts in any county where the Board of County Commissioners passes a resolution to set up such a district.

The Bill would repeal the Soil Conservation Act of 1937, but provides for continuation of the present six soil conservation districts now operating within the state.

HB 205. Foor (R. Bedford) Barton (R. Perry)—Exempts from 4 cent tax such liquid fuels used in stationary engines, tractors or other machinery used other than on public highways, and provides for refunds. (Referred to Committee on Ways and Means January 23.)

HB 677. Dix (R. Wayne)—Would exempt from 4 cents per gallon tax on liquid fuels such fuels used for operation of machines not operated on the public highways, if minimum of 500 gallons is used annually, and provides for refunds. (No specific mention of farm tractors). (Referred to Committee on Ways and Means February 20.)

HB 871. Lichtenwalter (R. Lehigh) Andrews (D. Cambria) — Exempts agricultural co-operative associations from payment of 3 per cent tax on annual net earnings or income under Act of 1889. Removes liability for the tax from any farm co-op doing business in the Commonwealth prior to passage of this amendment. Effective on enactment. (Referred to Committee on Ways and Means March 5.)

HB 872. Lichtenwalter (R. Lehigh) Andrews (D. Cambria) — Imposes an excise tax of 4 per cent on net income of co-operative agricultural associations having capital stock in lieu of all other taxes except local tax on real estate; applies to co-ops organized within and outside the Commonwealth (the latter in proportion to business transacted in the State); effective on enactment and would apply to calendar year ending December 31, 1944 and fiscal year ending during 1945. (Referred to Committee on Ways and Means, March 5.)

HB 873. Lichtenwalter (R. Lehigh) Andrews (D. Cambria)—Amends Act of 1919 covering co-operative agricultural associations not having capital stock and not conducted for profit, by: providing for termination of memberships after not participating for 12 months; filing summaries of annual audits; for involuntary winding up and dissolution of associations failing to file; providing penalties; and exemption from payment of State tax on net income, and from filing reports relative to such taxes. (Referred to Committee on Agriculture March 5.)

The Outlook

With the largest military food requirements in history, with foreign relief food needs increasing, and with civilian demands continuing at record high levels, agricultural production in 1945 will have to meet the greatest goal yet known for the food and fibre output of American farms. For six successive years farmers have topped the previous year's production records, with 1944 output a third more than the average for the five pre-war years, 1935-39. The physical job of producing a third more with 10 per cent fewer people on farms is a tremendous undertaking. Many people on farms are under great strain. But the time for relaxing is not yet here. The year 1945 will not be the time for cutting down. Never before was it so clear that "Food Will Win the War and Write the Peace."

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of The Guide Post

R. M. Hershey, York
Clarence Manifold, York
D. L. Rexrode, York
Charles A. Wilson, York
Gindlesperger Brothers, Somerset
Frank Gleason, Fayette
Harry Brugh, Somerset
Charles Darr, Somerset
Dwight Griffith, Somerset
A. W. Rice & Son, Luzerne
Oscar Kneller, Bradford
John W. Tressler, Luzerne
Joseph O. Fetherolf, Schuylkill
J. N. Harrison, Luzerne
Earl Sechler, Somerset
Charles L. Chesnell, Fayette
Thurston Blakeslee, Monroe
H. Warren Shaefer, Bucks
Timothy H. Gehman, Lehigh
Oscar L. Hostetter, York
Homer C. Handwerk, Lehigh
Eugene Fetterman, Columbia
Ward B. Ketherington, Schuylkill
Elmer Gieszelmann, Illinois
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A. T. Larson, McKean
A. G. Riggle & Son, Armstrong
William E. Templeton, Ohio
Louis Hiltz, York
Charles McCleary, York
Earnest Strawbridge, York
John H. Wilson, York
Ward B. Meyers, Somerset
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Ellis Friedline, Somerset
H. R. Snoberger, Bedford
Carl Readler, Luzerne
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Robert Hetler, Luzerne
C. S. Rickards, Columbia
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Harold C. Osborne, Erie
J. A. Bausch, Erie
Harvey M. Nester, Berks
Harvey B. Walker, Somerset
I. E. Kreider, Erie
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Gerald Moore, New York

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Earl S. Frantz, Lehigh
Wilmer N. Hill, Lehigh
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William E. Huber, Lehigh
John M. Dieter, Schuylkill
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Frederic Leubuscher, Berks
H. T. Uffelman, New York
M. M. Stewart, Dauphin
Edwin Rumbel, Schuylkill
C. W. Williamson, Somerset
Jacob Arnold, Lebanon
Miles Bucher, Lebanon
Raymond Gibble, Lebanon
Miles Horst, Lebanon
Henry Heffelfinger, Lebanon
J. Mark Kreider, Lebanon
M. V. Runkle, York
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Robert H. Engle, Washington
Raymond Reichard, Columbia
D. A. Bartron, Wyoming
Kermit Griffith, Somerset
Harry A. Friedline, Somerset
A. Glenn Ling, Somerset
Norman N. Eberly, Lancaster
D. Gennetti's Sons, Inc., Luzerne
Northampton County Institutional District, Northampton
Edgar J. Bailey, Lehigh
Pocono Valley Farm, Monroe
Jesse Barnett, York
Elmer H. Blose, Lehigh
Joseph J. Trainer, Montgomery
Mrs. Alex Strittmatter, Cambria
William D. George, Lehigh
Howard Silfies, Northampton
A. S. Whipple, Wayne
George I. McCracken, Indiana
John Gerhard & Son, Schuylkill
Howard Mitchell, Venango
Howard Bomberger, Lebanon
Wayne Dubble, Lebanon
John Gibble, Lebanon
Allen Horst, Lebanon
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George Lentz, Lebanon
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Albert D. Miller, Lebanon
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Harry Reesor, Lebanon
Andrew Seyfert, Lebanon
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Patrick Mulligan, Cambria
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Maynard Reibson, Sullivan
John Fitzgerald, Sullivan
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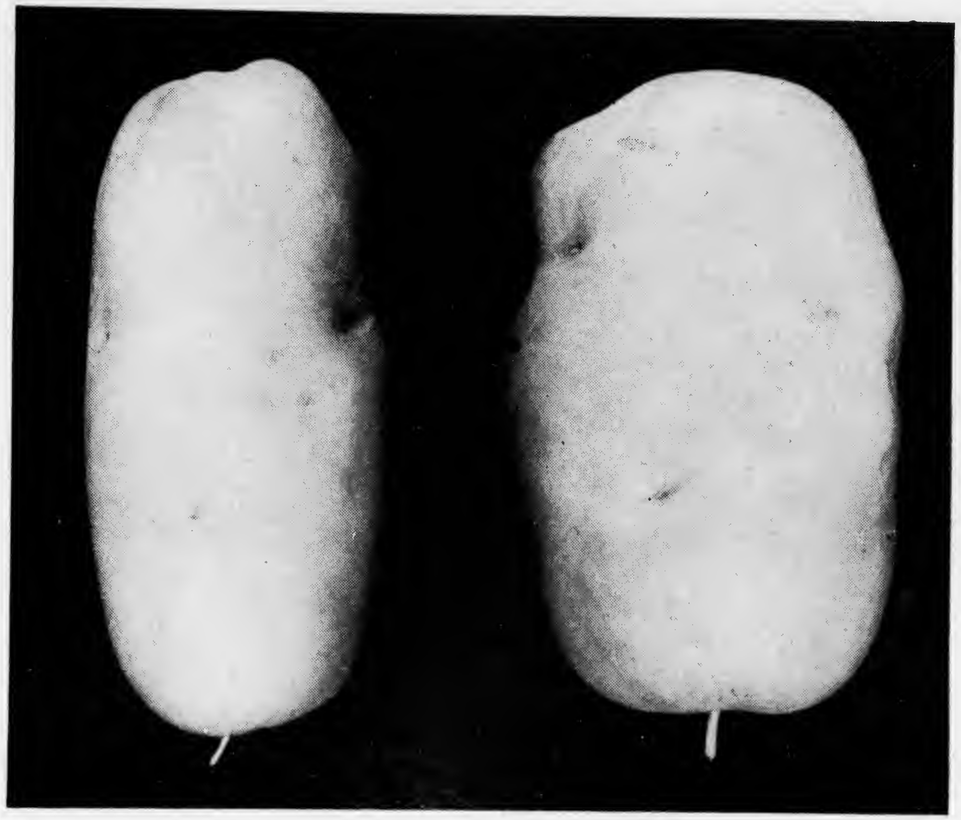
John Hetherington, Schuylkill
Bernadine Daly, Ohio

The GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS



OUR AIM: BLUE LABEL POTATOES

Dependent Upon Cultural and Varietal Characteristics.

APRIL — 1945

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UNION CITY

Volume XXII **April, 1945** **Number 4**

BLUE LABEL POTATOES AND CULTURAL PRACTICES

DR. E. L. NIXON, Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

There can be no question about it that potato growers will need to be more and more alert in the production of "Blue Label" quality potatoes.

There is less and less demand on the part of the consuming public for off grade potatoes including size B's. Food value no longer rules consumer demand. It is now what appeals to the eye of the largest and most perfect specimens.

It is not likely that this consumer trend will shift until the economic situation changes so that cars can be purchased. When autos can run again eye appeal in potatoes, if they cost less, will have more consumer appeal, for it is a fact when more of the family income goes into auto upkeep, less goes into the market basket.

The contributing cultural practice in the production of Blue Label potatoes which ought to be considered are:

One.—Deep planting 3-4 inches **below** the **level** of the **surface** and no fudging. Deep planting is basic to all future operations. When the pieces are on the top of the soil so that even the weeder rakes them the crop is off to a bad start. Fig. 1.

Two.—Deep root system. Deep planting starts the crop off with a deep root system. Future cultural practices determine what will ultimately become of the root system. It can be grown below ground just like a hedge can be trimmed to fantastic shapes above ground. Every time a cultivating tool is run down the potato rows the operator should ask himself the question, now, just what do I want to accomplish with this operation?

Three.—An abundance of humus accompanied with an **ideal root bed.** An ideal root bed for potatoes is one having the litter (humus) thoroughly incorporated with the clods, stones and fine soil throughout the plowed area. If one cannot set a modern potato planter to plant 3½ inches below the level then the field or patch ought to be plowed.

Four. — Good seed of an adapted

variety. Good seed is becoming less plentiful. Before the days of ring rot or wilt one used to recognize the mosaics and leaf roll, and the other degenerative diseases. It is still a fact that some certified seed, of the same variety, will yield fifty or so less bushels per acre than some other certified seed. Which one to purchase is a serious question.

It is a fact that the factors which go to making a bigger crop also contribute most to making a better crop.

The bugaboo of the Pennsylvania Potato grower is high temperature, frequently accompanied with dry weather. His system of culture should be aimed or pointed to counteract high soil temperature and dry weather.

Some of the factors which contribute most to poor "Blue Labels" or inability to pack Blue Labels economically at all are, (1) Mechanical Injury accompanying digger bruises and rough handling and storing. **This ought to be completely eliminated.** (2) Internal discoloration.

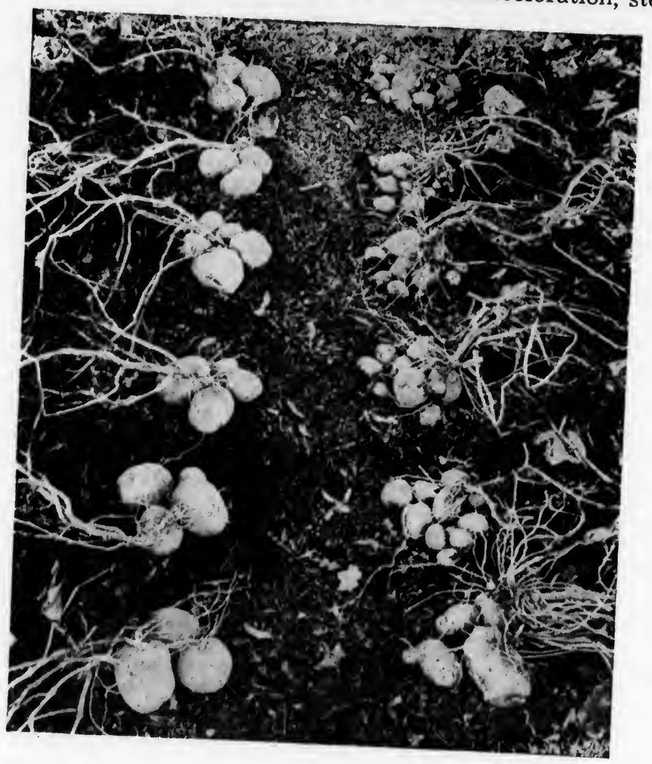
INTERNAL DISCOLORATION

You may bet your bottom dollar that if during the critical stage in the growth of the potato plant the stolons lose their turgidity (become wilted), you are in for a peck of trouble.

The critical stage in the life of the potato is when the tubers are about the size of hen eggs. It is at about this time that the patch is "laid by." Laying them by is always preceded by a "good working."

A feeling of guilt overtakes us in that we think up to now they have been neglected. Now we will "work them up" and, of course, to do this, soil polluted with fine roots is gouged out of the middle of the rows.

Often fifty per cent of the plant's root system is destroyed. Accompany this root pruning with the seasonal dry spell, wilting of plants results and the stage is all set for an epidemic of stem-end discoloration, stem-end rot, blue stem.



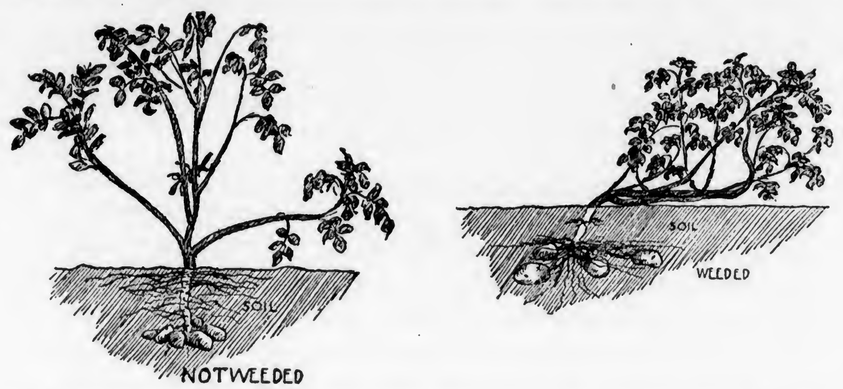
Deep vs. Shallow Planting—Tubers to right show abnormal development and shape, due to heat.

This observation has been proven experimentally. During a hot dry spell 100 plants were pulled by hand to loosen them in the ground, the aim being to disconnect enough roots to cause severe wilting but not enough to cause death of the plants. Weather conditions remained dry and hot for almost two weeks. Twelve of the plants died, the rest made sufficient recovery to produce an average crop of tubers.

At maturity, all tubers from the 88 remaining plants were examined and 89 per cent were too badly discolored to be marketable.

A similar number of unmolested hills adjacent to the pulled plants were **all free from stem end discoloration.**

To test this out further, one-half of the tubers were planted over buried steam pipes, the other half was planted in adjacent unheated or normal conditions. When the plants had produced a set of small tubers the steam was turned on the buried pipes long enough to produce considerable wilting. At digging time 92 per cent of the tubers from the heated area **showed marked discoloration.** All from the unheated area were clean.



Influence of proper and improper weeding and cultivation on tuber set and formation. Weeder has not only eradicated weeds but prevented shallow rooting and also placed the vine down the row serving as shade and keeping the soil cool.

A survey conducted in 1917 showed an annual loss of almost 1,000,000 bushels to the potato crop of Pennsylvania from what was then called "fusarium wilt." To this name has since been added the terms stem rot, stem-end discoloration, and blue stem.

No investigator in Pennsylvania has ever been able to produce a potato disease with a species of fusarium.

So-called blue stem plants produce a large percentage of stem-end discolored tubers if the weather is hot and dry.

Stem-end discoloration and **stem rot** are descriptive terms which merely indicate the location, type and extent of the tuber abnormality from whatever cause. None of these abnormalities, experiments have proved, are transmitted in the seed. Experiments have also proved that they are not transmitted in the soil. No experiments have proved that they can be transmitted in any manner.

All of the experiments of investigators and all the experience of practical growers go to show that they are best controlled by the best cultural practices and if the season is cool and moist the worst cultural practices will not induce them.

Cooking black is a complaint that comes only from the consumer. It has been attributed—like "boiling off"—almost exclusively to the Russet. Extreme storage conditions as too hot or too cold are undoubted factors in contributing to this condition.

The only other control measure which I have observed, experienced, and experimented with, which helps is a 1-3-3 ratio of fertilizer.

A typical example of Blue Stem and Stem-End tuber discoloration. Hundreds of car loads of potatoes have been rejected this year due to a high percentage of this abnormal condition. Climatic conditions and improper cultural methods are the prevailing causes.

The other internal discoloration which has been named is net necrosis. Here again are several causes to a similar effect. It makes the fresh cut surface of a tuber look like it had been sprinkled with black pepper.

Frost or low temperature will cause it—hence the name frost necrosis. Heat in field or storage will cause it—hence the name heat necrosis. It is said that leaf roll will also cause it, hence the name leaf roll necrosis. Good growing, good storing is the best control.

Government in Business

At its latest annual meeting the American Farm Bureau Federation adopted a resolution asking the Federal Government to set up experimental plants for the production of potash, nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizers. A similar demand is now expressed in a bill which would have the Tennessee Valley Authority formulate a national fertilizer policy and program—and carry it out. This country has now a competent fertilizer industry with which no government operated plants could compete without the use of funds supplied by taxpayers. There is no need now, or probably in the near future, for tossing away millions of dollars in vain experiments. Probably such resolutions and bills do not express the ideas or the demands of real farmers, most of whom believe that our government should get out of business enterprises and stay out. All such measures should be gently deposited in some pigeon-hole or other hole from which they could not emerge.

NOTICE! NOTICE!

We Hear from an Old Friend

J. Hansel French, formerly Secretary of Agriculture, is J. Hansel French, Inc., 147 West Main St., Norristown, Pa. Roofing, Paints, Painters' Supplies and Cuprinol. He'll be glad to hear from his grower friends.

Potato Growers Discuss Community Plans

(A Reporters Report — Walter Jack)
Bankers, Business Men and Chamber of Commerce Officials Meet With Growers at Corry; Proposed Program Would Add Prosperity To Every Community and Will Make it Conscious of Agriculture.

WALTER JACK—ERIE

Nearly a hundred bankers, business men, chamber of commerce officials and potato growers of northwestern Pennsylvania dined at Hotel Corry, Corry, Pa., Wednesday evening. J. A. Donaldson, president of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers and directors of the State wide organization were hosts. Dr. E. L. Nixon, State College, famous plant breeder and originator of potato varieties was the speaker.

The meeting followed an all day Machinery Adjustment Conference and study of spray equipment at Titusville. This was held at the Donaldson Farm Supply Company, Titusville, 200 present. All were guests of the A. B. Farquhar Co., York, Penna., at luncheon Wednesday noon.

The object of the meeting at Corry was to discuss a community program and make it a part of a state program. Dr. Nixon drove home the fact that prosperous cities and towns owed their prosperity to a flourishing farming community. He cited the fact that when $1,000 is written off the value of a farm through neglect, erosion, waste of soil fertility, the community and adjoining city is $7,000 worse off.

Dr. Nixon declared that enthusiasm, vision and interest in community life, a spirit of pride in agriculture is necessary for the restoration of our rural communities, churches and villages. He pointed to the fact that all but one of the large cities of Pennsylvania are going backward. He told of decentralization, and how the middle west and far west is attracting industries from Pennsylvania, and the young farm blood. He pointed out that there are too few schools in America that are training young men and young women to be honest to goodness farmers and farm wives. In speaking of the contribution of a business farmer to the community, Dr. Nixon cited Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Miller of Beaver Dam, among others of Erie county, as making an inestimable contribution to the prosperity and welfare of the area. "The story of Ivan Miller and his good wife will appear in the coming issue of the Country Gentleman and should be read by all."

The meeting continued as a round table discussion, with growers telling of their ups and downs in the business, and their community objectives.

To do packaging on the farm, rather than in town would be a definite contribution to local employment and welfare. To secure a larger percentage of the consumer's dollar would react on the rural community, enabling a higher standard of living, bath tubs, electrical appliances, and other things enjoyed by the city resident.

Service to the veteran was discussed by potato growers and bankers. Ivan Miller and others said they would hire good responsible young men who are willing to work and give them employment the year round. They would train them in all practices and in cases where they made good, they would encourage them financially and otherwise in the ownership of farms and equipment.

A program which will make the community, the town and the city conscious of agriculture as the most important industry, was discussed and tentatively adopted. This calls for placing before the public the economic value of a prosperous farm, and a well regulated farm family in the scheme of things.

The conclusion of the officers, directors, members and guests are to write

Continued on page eleven

POTATO GROWERS DISCUSS COMMUNITY PLANS

Continued from page eight

into the community, regional and state program of the Association a determination to convince the general public of the importance, the dignity, and the economic status of agriculture in the American pattern of living. Among those who concurred, included John A. Barney, president of the Erie-Crawford Dairy Cooperative speaking in the interests of all dairymen.

This is one of the regional educational and policy meetings that are being held throughout the state. The directors approved the policies and urged they should be made active. The meeting was arranged by C. F. H. Wuesthoff, general manager and secretary, Williamsport, Penna.

Directors present were Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton, York Co.; Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore, Lycoming Co.; P. Daniel Frantz, branch manager, Allentown; J. K. Mast, Elverson, Lancaster Co.; Lester J. Lohr, Boswell, Somerset Co.; Frank L. Dodd, Columbus, Warren Co.; J. M. Hindman, branch manager, Union City; J. A. Donaldson, president, Emlenton, Venango Co.; Ed Fisher, vice president, Coudersport, Potter Co.; Dr. E. L. Nixon, State College, and General Manager Wuesthoff.

Assistance for War Veterans

The best, most practical and sensible idea of helping farm minded veterans has been proposed by Ivan Miller, Erie County. Mr. Miller stated that he would hire any worthy veteran, pay him the going yearly wage, the year around, and if he is a man with a family, would provide the same housing convenience as are provided his year around employees.

Mr. Miller says that he would see him through his apprenticeship, if he really wants to become a potato grower, and is willing to work. He further says that he would introduce him to bankers with the view of establishing his credit with them.

Mr. Miller further says that he would advise and loan needed equipment to the veteran who made good, and who might start in his immediate community.

This idea has been examined by veterans seeking to find flaws in it, and they say it is the perfect plan for the veteran who is interested in becoming a specialist in potato growing, and other farmers would do the same.

The prospective potato grower, earns and learns, gains experience and lives. He will find himself years ahead of the other fellow who plunges in and learns by the cut and try method. — Walter Jack, Erie.

BLUE LABEL

Farms Abandoned Economic Calamity

Dr. E. L. Nixon challenges the business men and the Chambers of Commerce of Pennsylvania with facts and figures. Speaking before the Potato Growers of Northwestern Pennsylvania at Corry, Dr. Nixon said that the number of farms that have been abandoned in Northwestern Pennsylvania constitute an economic and a social crime. He gives figures to sustain his view point. Dr. Nixon says that a thousand dollars written off the economic resources of an agricultural community, means that seven times this amount is written off the economic resources of the adjoining business community.

Dr. Nixon challenges the indifference of business men, bankers, educators and chamber of commerce men toward farms being abandoned in every section of Pennsylvania. He says "you cannot expect industry to stay in a section of the state which is growing up to golden rod."

His cure is better farm markets and better marketing methods. He urges preparing, processing and packaging the farm product right at the farm or in the neighborhood, paying wages to farm boys and girls, and effecting a saving to the consuming public, rather than doing this in population centers and drawing the youth away from God's blessed country.

Dr. Nixon says that 80 per cent of the fruits and vegetables that are consumed in New York City are shipped 1,800 miles, when much could be produced within 250 miles of that consuming center.—Walter Jack, Erie.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

Blue Label Movement to April 1st

(Still Going Strong)

Blue Label Movement to April 1st, 1945, has gone over the top with respect to sales as compared with any previous year in the history of this organization.

Orderly marketing of potatoes by patrons has been most noticeable throughout the entire season. Blue Labels began on their regular trek to market August 15th and steadily throughout the season. The grand total was 5,350,572 which included 191 cars to the Quartermaster Corp equivalent to 573,000 pecks.

Erie	1,091,731	Venango	84,582
Lehigh	525,814	Potter*	84,479
Somerset	470,579	Luzerne	69,628
Lancaster	354,075	Crawford	69,167
Columbia	346,316	York	68,903
Cambria	281,569	Northampton	60,708
Warren	255,015	Lycoming	49,847
Chester	248,944	Indiana	44,748
Carbon	116,356	Wyoming	35,817
Monroe	100,991		
Schuylkill*	88,762		

* Reports incomplete

ASSOCIATION MEMBERS COUNT THEIR BLESSINGS

Members of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association have had the unusual opportunity of seeing and hearing discussions and demonstrations of improved and recommended potato growing practices this year. Five meetings in as many potato growing areas have been held during March and April under the auspices of the local potato grower' association, the A. B. Farquhar Co. of York, the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council and the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association. Over 100 interested growers attending each session enjoyed and participated in the all-day discussions with most favorable comments.

Fitting of the root-bed, adjustment and operation of the planter with relation to the placement of seed and fertilizer, cultivator adjustment and operation, adjustment of the spray boom and operation of the sprayer in relation to pressure and size of discs all were thoroughly thrashed out under the leadership and direction of none other than Dr. E. L. Nixon, the Potato Wizard. Each day was crowded with worthwhile suggestions and directions. If growers would see to it that recommended practices were carried out—thousands upon thousands of extra bushels will be produced this year as a tangible result.

The above series of meetings is only one of the many advantages resulting from membership in the State Association. It was through the Association's efforts that these meetings were made possible and only members secured special advance notice although all potato growers were indirectly invited and welcomed to every session. The Association's monthly publication, The Guide Post, will and has summarized recommendations so that all members will not only have heard and seen important developments in modern practices but may also have them for future reference.

What other Blessings are enjoyed? Briefly—**Just as a Reminder**—A Marketing Program—effective, efficient and different.

A Monthly Publication, The Guide Post—practical and most unusual, nothing like it in America.

A "Camp Potato," the Mecca for educational, social and recreational benefits.

An Educational Program for young and old, and finally—A Junior Growers' Organization interested in those interested in Rural Development.

Dear Reader—**You are a member.** Is your neighbor also a member? Perhaps you owe it to him, yourself and your Association to make him one?

—BLUE LABEL—

More Farm Phones ? ? ?

A bill is now before the Congress to set up a rural telephone administration (RTA) and provide a hundred million dollars for loans to finance a host of small telephone companies. This in face of the experience which has proved that even two telephone systems are a nuisance in any region. That is why only one competent system survives in most areas, that system being under public supervision and its rates subject to regulation. As soon as war conditions allow the present system, which is the best the world has yet seen, proposes reductions and improvements that are expected to put telephones into nine out of ten farm homes. That may be too high an estimate, but with a half mile of new pole line or underground line free of charge to the homes off the main line, and with charges for lines beyond that distance cut in two, there will certainly be more telephones on farms than now. In this region about 45 per cent of our farms have telephones now. Under such circumstances RTA is neither necessary nor desirable.

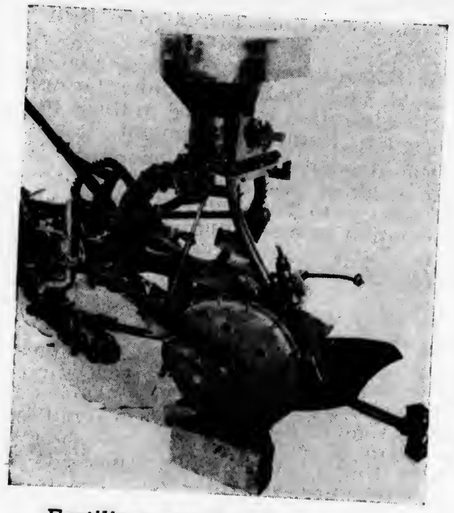
DON'T—

be discouraged if the "Breaks" are against you and disappointments pile high. Do the best you can. That's all the angels are doing nowadays.

PLOWING UNDER FERTILIZER

To further "**prove** what we already **know**" to your own satisfaction, you are asked, yes urged, to make your own test of plowing-under fertilizer for potatoes on a substantial part of your acreage this year. If 1200 lbs. of 4-12-12 or 5-10-10 is to be used per acre we suggest that half of this application be broadcast with the grain drill and plowed down or with the special fertilizer plow attachment which places the fertilizer on the plow-sole. The balance of the total application should be placed in the planter to be applied in bands three to four inches on each side and on a **level with** or **slightly below** the seed piece. Repeated tests have shown consistent production increases of 40 to 50 bushels per acre.

The question is repeatedly asked—Will broadcasting with the drill immediately preceding plowing give the desired results. The answer according to a limited number of tests seems to be **Yes.** Machinery manufacturers have



Fertilizer attachment on plow.

been experimenting with special equipment whereby fertilizer may be placed on the plow-sole. None to-date has proven practical, efficient and durable. One that we hear of and see repeatedly is attached to the plow—it is cheaply built, lacks capacity and does not lend itself to regular farm practices. A more recent attachment

Fertilizer hoppers on each side of tractor with spouts dropping fertilizer behind sturdy cultivator teeth.

with a fair sized hopper is mounted rigidly on the tractor—if we are going to place the potato fertilizer on the plow-sole, this looks good to us. Another attachment in the making consists of fertilizer hoppers on each side of the tractor with appropriate feeding tubes and shoes placed behind deep going cultivator teeth. This last arrangement is to precede the planting operation. It serves two purposes, it jostles or loosens deep below the surface soil without bringing up the subsoil and places the fertilizer 8 or 9 inches deep where capillary or microscopic moisture will place it in solution and make it available to the potato plant when it needs it most.

The above methods of fertilizer application are reasonable, logical and in many cases where tests were run experimentally correct. A recent test made by Dr. Ora Smith, of Cornell University, briefly showed the following results:

Jostles soil from below and places fertilizer 8-9 inches deep.

Rate	Placement	Yield (U.S. No. 1's)
1200 lbs.	Bands	263
	Broadcast (half in bands)	313
	Plow-Sole (half in bands)	296
2400 lbs.	Bands	323
	Broadcast (half in bands)	356
	Plow-Sole (half in bands)	351

May we suggest and urge the potato grower to make suitable tests to **Prove to Himself** that **It Pays** to plow-down fertilizer, broadcast or applied to the plow-sole. Here is a practical guide for your test—

Object: Compare Band-Method of fertilizer application with Plowing-Under Method.

Fertilizer: Any standard fertilizer grade, preferably 5-10-10, 4-12-12 or 4-12-8.

Lay-Out:

Plot No. 1

Apply **1000 lbs. fertilizer** per acre in Bands at time of planting.

Total—1000 lbs. per acre

Plot No. 2

Plow-under **500 lbs. fertilizer** per acre, and place 500 lbs. fertilizer per acre in Bands at planting time.

Total—1000 lbs. per acre.

Plot No. 3

Plow-under **1000 lbs. fertilizer** per acre, and place 500 lbs. fertilizer in Bands at time of planting.

Total—1500 lbs. per acre.

Size of Plots—8 or 10 rows through the field.

Make this test in 1945 to convince yourself and your grower friends who are all like yourself interested in efficient, profitable potato production. This Association is vitally interested in results obtained and will make every possible effort to assist. Drop us a card and we will check with you during the growing season.

Fertilizers

Professor J. B. R. Dickey of Pennsylvania State College advised farmers that the fertilizer situation in 1945 depends somewhat on the progress of the war. If hostilities continue, he explains, demands of munition makers for nitrogen and sulphuric acid may interfere with a full supply of nitrogenous fertilizer and superphosphate. Potash on the other hand is expected to be available in adequate amounts. Where phosphate or phosphate-potash fertilizer is to be used for top-dressing pasture or alfalfa, Professor Dickey says it might as well be applied in the fall when more time is available and the fields are in better condition for spreading. Commenting further, he says the analyses for 1945 will be substantially the same as for 1944 except that the 1-6-3 ratio, 2-12-6, has been eliminated from the authorized list and a 1-3-3 ratio, such as 4-12-12, has been added. The latter should be a better ratio on very fertile or well-manured soils for late potatoes which, with the old 1-2-2 ratio (5-10-10 or 4-8-8) were stimulated to make excessive vine growth by the high proportion of nitrogen.

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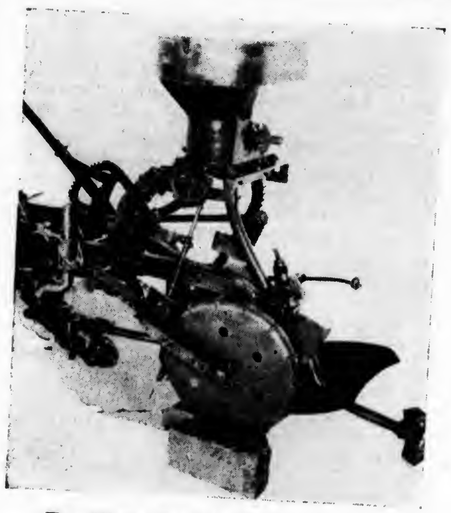

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CULTIVATING AND WEEDING CALENDAR FOR POTATO GROWERS

Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

A FEW BASIC PRINCIPLES

(a) The ideal root bed for potatoes is one having a uniform distribution of humus, fine soil, clods, stones and air spaces throughout the plowed area.

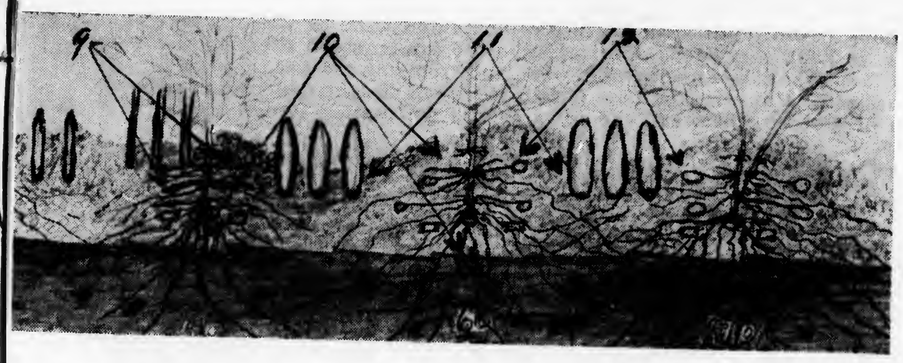
(b) The subsoil is a vast storehouse of moisture, which travels upward into the root medium, provided the plowed area is handled in the proper way.

(c) The ultimate aims in root bed preparation and subsequent cultivation are (1) weed control, (2) retention and distribution of water that falls as rain, (3) a deep root system, (4) uniformity in tuber set and development through maintaining as uniform soil moisture and soil temperature as is possible under the changing weather, (5) erosion control and (6) the highest per cent of Blue Label Potatoes.

ATTENTION TO DETAILS

Study the diagramatic sketch below. The purpose of this cut is to help you in answering the question, "What do I want to accomplish with this operation?"

1. The fertilizer bands—on a **level with** or **slightly below** the seed piece—but at least three inches on each side of the seed. Never disturb the fertilizer bands.
2. Sprouted seed—deep planted, shallow covered.
3. Fertilizer bands plowed under.
4. Indicate 10 - 20 - 30 - 40 etc. days after planting.
5. The first deep cultivation—plow depth if possible—8 inches from the plants.
6. The plow sole or sub soil.
7. The second deep cultivation—8-10 inches from the plants. 6-8 inches deep.



8. The weeder teeth—purpose to destroy seed weeds and encourage deep roots.
9. Note that at this stage the stolons are just beginning to develop—too early to ridge or "lay by."
10. Note tremendous development of deep roots—and
11. Absence of shallow roots.
12. Plenty of soil on the tubers—it never should be gouged out of long uncultivated middles. If the soil between the rows is to be used to ridge or hill up—keep it free of roots by frequent (10-14 days) and deep cultivation.

TEXT CUT OFF

Some CULTIVATION PRINCIPLES

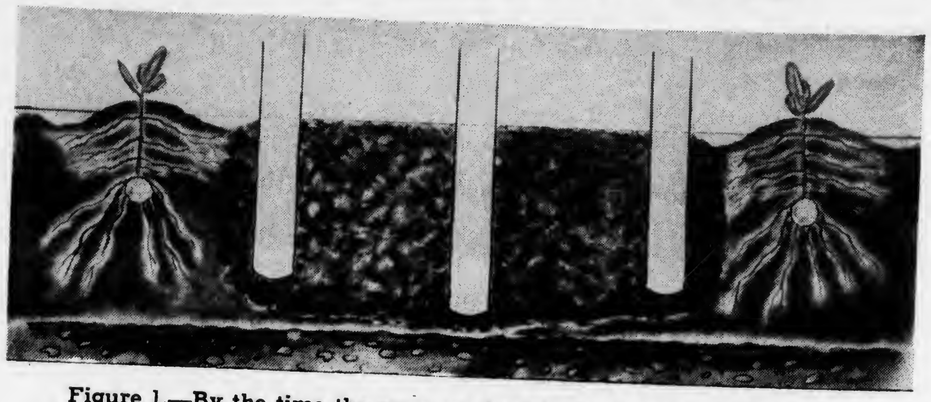


Figure 1.—By the time the rows can be followed it is imperative that a deep, cultivation be made—approximately plow depth. Long narrow (two inch) shovels are best. They should never run close enough to disturb the fertilizer bands or bulge or lift the sets—about 8 inches from the rows or plants is about right—up to this time a spring tooth harrow might have been run once or twice. Remember to use the spring tooth set for an inch or two in depth it is essential that the seed pieces should be planted at least 3½ inches below the level.

From here on cultivating should be supplemented with frequent weeding—This, to keep the weeds eradicated before you can see them in the rows and to prevent the development of surface roots on the potato plants. Figure 1, page 3. Note what a loose porous reservoir for the collection and retention of moisture between the rows such a cultivation is creating.

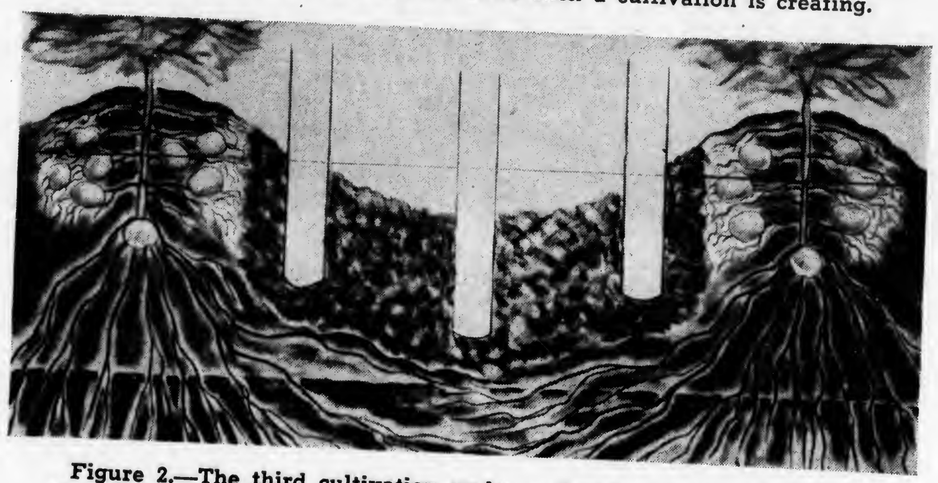


Figure 2.—The third cultivation under optimum conditions about the same depth—6 to 8 inches deep and 8 to 10 inches from the plants or rows. If the intervals between cultivating are not too long no damage is done to the root system for none have yet developed in the worked areas—but a tremendous root system is beginning to develope downward. Again there is an enormous moisture collecting and holding capacity created between the rows. Supplemented with weekly weeding, seed weeds are eradicated and shallow surface roots are eliminated.

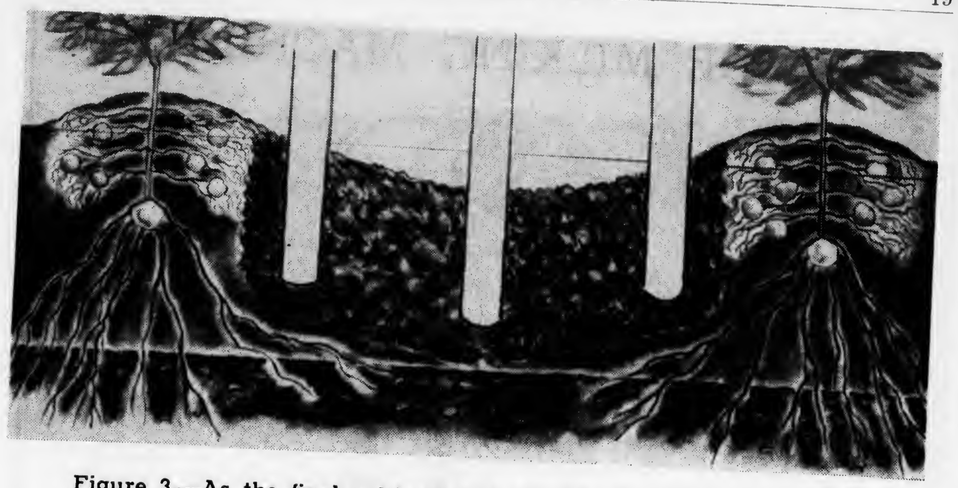
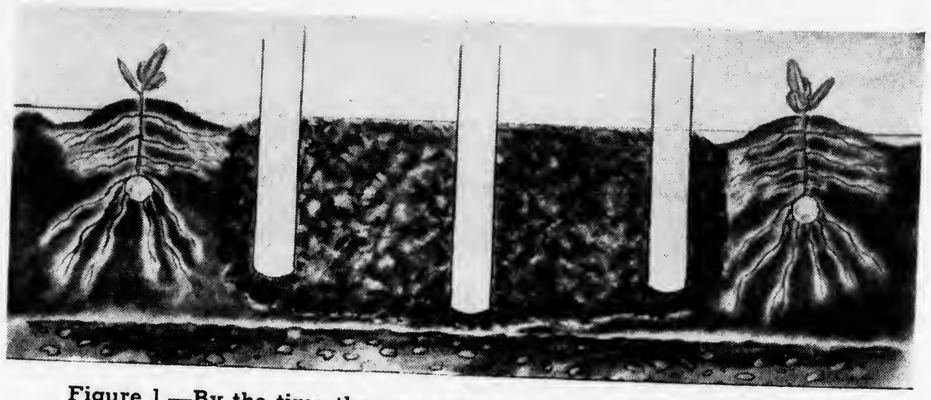


Figure 3.—As the final cultivation is approached with the depth approximately the same as before and the side shovels no closer than 10 to 12 inches—still a reservoir of moisture collecting and moisture holding is perpetuated.

Note that the roots are trained away from the workable area between the rows and that actually they permeate all the area which has not been frequently disturbed by the weeder and cultivator including the subsoil.

The harm in cultivating is done by allowing the roots to become distributed throughout all the plowed area and then at the "last" cultivation tearing them off from between the rows in the middles to procure earth to "hill them up."

Some CULTIVATION PRINCIPLES



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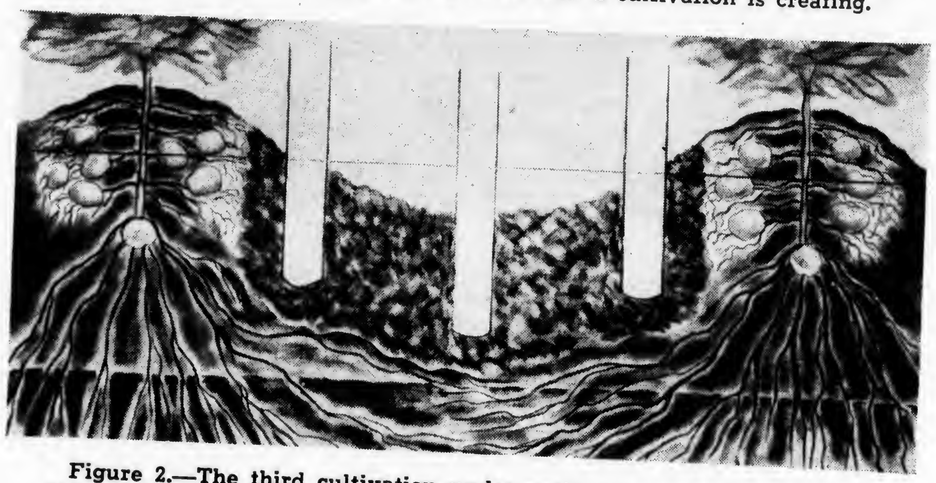

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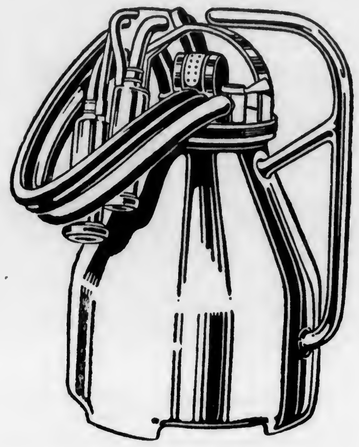
CONDE MILKING MACHINES



"The World's Finest Milker"

Investigate Before You Buy

* * *

Two Sizes of Peach Machines Available:

1-Roll with Tables—Capacity 400 Bu. per day

2-Roll with Dist. Belt—Cap. 800 Bu. per day

O. K. Champion One and Two Row Potato Diggers

Boggs Hand and Power Potato Graders

Boggs Potato Binloaders and Sack Elevators

Trescott Apple Graders and Cleaners

Vac-A-Way Seed and Grain Cleaners and Graders
Conde Milking Machines

J-M Transite Pipe for Agricultural Purposes

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Irrigation for all Crops and Orchards

"INSURE"
Crop Production By Irrigating

"RAIN"
Where and When You Want It

COMPLETE PORTABLE IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Champion Portable Pipe and Valves

Skinner Revolving Sprinklers—sand proof

Transite Pressure Pipe for underground lines

"RAIN-O-MATIC" Portable Power Pumping Units

Sizes: 100 to 2,000 Gallons Per Minute

SPECIALISTS IN IRRIGATION

Hamilton & Company has designed and sold Irrigation Systems for many different crops grown on over 100,000 acres. We invite your irrigation problems and our Irrigation Engineering Service is always available to you. We will gladly plan your complete Irrigation System, including necessary pipe, valves, fittings, pump, sprinklers, engine or mounted portable power pumping unit and furnish you with an estimate. Write us today.

A FEW IRRIGATED PRODUCTION RESULTS:

Potatoes	**587 Bushels per acre.**
Dried Tobacco	**2512 Pounds per acre.**
Snap Beans	**7 Tons per acre.**
Tomatoes	**17 Tons per acre.**
Peas	**4 Tons per acre.**
Alfalfa	**5 Cuttings per year.**

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LOHR AGAIN HEADS SOMERSET COUNTY POTATO GROWERS

Lester Lohr, Boswell, was recently re-elected president of the Somerset County Potato Growers Association at the meeting of the group Wednesday afternoon at the auditorium of the Mary S. Biesecker Public Library. Other officers are Joe Fisher, Davidsville, vice-president; Harvey Walker, Berlin, secretary-treasurer.

Marketing Somerset county potatoes was the subject of the meeting which was arranged by County Agent C. C. McDowell. About 35 enthusiastic potato growers were present, with R. B. Donaldson, extension marketing specialist of State College, and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, secretary of Pennsylvania State Potato Growers' Association, Williamsport, as guest speakers.

Mr. Wuesthoff outlined the work being done by the state organization and stressed the fact that creating a future market for potatoes depends chiefly upon what now is being packed; he stated that 12 per cent of Somerset county potatoes are now found in Blue Label packages, a U. S. No. 1 product.

Good Marketing

"I've heard more good marketing talks here than in a long time," said R. B. Donaldson, who had been an interested listener to the discussions before his time on the program was due. Mr. Donaldson told the group that it does pay to grade potatoes. "There's nothing wrong in selling the 85 per cent grade, but don't sell it as a 100 per cent product; we have come a long way in potato grading in the state. We find that 70 per cent of the potatoes favored in the market are the white-skinned." He explained that the logical time to sell potatoes is when there is a demand for them, which is most all the time, and also stated that the man who sells at the same time each year will build up a trade but "The man who gambles with potatoes will go out of business in time."

Many on Program

Local growers on the program were Emerson Knepper and Gordon Moser on "Problems in Grading"; Harvey Walker and Oran Beachley, "Does It Pay to Grade and Label?"; E. R. Spory and John Knepper, "Advantages and Disadvantages of Packing the 15-pound Bag"; Charles Darr, "When to Sell"; Harry Brugh," "Putting Quality in Bag." Among the problems discussed were the scab and stem discoloration, the separation of the good from the mediocre when packing, correct classification, grading, and many other points of interest. The advantage of the 15-pound consumer package was stressed as it saves the merchant the trouble of weighing out the small lots. Good grading helps to establish a market and creates a demand even when supply is heavy, also controls business and makes a satisfied consumer as well as grower, it was learned.

Lester Lohr presided and supplemented the talks with many good points of his own. Mr. Lohr was recently elected a director of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association.

Blackening of Potatoes

Scientists at the Long Ashton Research Station, Bristol, England, commenting on blackening of potatoes say, "In wartime when so much importance is attached to the potato as a food, the question of quality is of great importance and in this connection the trouble of blackening calls for special attention. The cause of blackening has been attributed to the formation of ferric iron, probably the black oxide. The precursor of the black pigment is regarded as possibly being ferrous iron in loose combination with proteins which are hydrolyzed on boiling, and probably to the hydroxide which is subsequently oxidized. In practice blackening has frequently been associated with potash deficiency in the soil and more especially where this deficiency exists in conjunction with high nitrogen status, resulting in a wide N-K ratio. Recent experiments at Long Ashton show that in addition to the blackening resulting from potash deficiency, the condition may also be brought about by a deficiency of phosphate and possibly of calcium. These latter results are of particular importance at present when large areas of poor acid land deficient in phosphate are being broken up and planted with potatoes. In the sand culture experiment blackening was associated with the highest contents of iron in the tubers."

RURAL DEVELOPMENT INTERESTS UTILITIES

Plans for making more and better telephone service available to farmers throughout Pennsylvania as soon as war conditions make the necessary manpower and facilities available are now being pushed by the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania.

The program is not a new one but rather the revival of a project which the company has been working on for many years, although war conditions have made it impossible for it to be carried out in full force recently.

Latest development is the filing of new tariffs with the Public Utility Commission which will eliminate public highway construction charges for new lines in many cases; reduce the charges in the few cases remaining and also reduce the charges for private property construction when the prospective telephone user is located at some distance from the nearest public road.

The company estimates that the new tariffs will bring telephone lines to better than 9 out of 10 of the rural families in its territory without any charge for public highway pole line construction. The company will now build up to a half mile of public highway line to serve a new customer an increase from the previous 1600 feet limit.

In addition, for those living beyond this half mile limit, the charges for construction have been reduced from $10 for each 100 feet of new construction to $5. Thus, this charge is cut in half.

For private property construction, where the subscriber is located some distance from the public highway, the charge for construction of pole lines, if the subscriber elects to have the company do the work, has been cut from $18 a pole to $12. Of course, the subscriber may build his own pole line and the company will string the wire without charge.

In this connection, another development is of considerable interest to farmers. It is a telephone wire which can be buried in a plow furrow, thus eliminating the need for poles across private property.

This cannot be used on all farms, as certain soil conditions are necessary, but in many cases if the farmer will plow a furrow from the public road, the telephone company will lay the wire in this furrow, without charge. After the war its use is expected to be extended.

The Bell System, as a whole, plans to spend approximately $100,000,000 in the three to five years following the war, in extending telephone service to an additional million farms throughout the country. Of this, it is planned to spend several million dollars in Pennsylvania, although the percentage of telephones on our farms is already somewhat higher than the national average. It is estimated that approximately 43 per cent of the farms in Bell of Pennsylvania's territory now have telephones.

Since 1935, which was the low point of the depression as far as the telephone company was concerned, there has been an increase of 78 per cent in the number of rural telephones in Bell's Pennsylvania territory. This compares with a 63 per cent increase in cities and towns.

Throughout the country, approximately 500,000 telephones have been added in rural territory since 1935 and of these 350,000 have been added since 1940, despite the increased war-time difficulties in obtaining new facilities and the shortages of manpower.

Telephone scientists have also developed a method by which telephone conversations can be transmitted over electric power lines and are also working on radio telephones for isolated subscribers. However, neither of these developments is expected to be put to much use in this State, where distances between farms and central offices are comparatively short. They are expected, however, to play an important part in the development of telephone service in the Southern and Western States where farms are often many miles apart and the nearest community with a central office may be 50 miles away.

The United States now leads the world in telephone development—both in urban and rural territory. It is generally conceded to be the best telephone service in the world.

But as soon as war conditions permit the company will be ready again to improve this service even more and make it available to just as many people as possible.

Co-op Farmers---Pioneers and Farmers

by R. H. Elsworth

In America the farm people have been the pioneers in the field of cooperation. More than a hundred years ago they turned toward economic cooperation in their search for peace, plenty, and more democracy. Since that day their problem has been that of developing and perfecting cooperative techniques for those functions which can be performed more satisfactorily jointly than independently. The record shows that they have accomplished much.

They have provided most of the leadership for the many successful cooperatives. To them belongs the credit for having conducted the greater part of the experimental work necessary to develop workable techniques for cooperative marketing, purchasing, financing, insurance, rural electrification, transportation, manufacture of supplies, recreation, and education.

Dairy farmers were the first to evolve a technique for jointly processing the product of their herds into marketable commodities—cheese and butter. It required nearly 50 years to evolve methods that had the characteristics of permanency.

A cooperative for the purchase of farm supplies was set up by farmers at the eastern end of Long Island in the early sixties. During the fifties and sixties farmers were experimenting with the establishment of associations for the cooperative handling and marketing of grain.

Although the Grange, founded in 1879, was to be a farmers' fraternal order, its members discovered that the subordinate and the State units were well suited for buying and selling on a cooperative basis. As a consequence, several thousand of the granges went into business.

By the beginning of the current century techniques for the cooperative making of cheese and butter; marketing of grain, fruits, and vegetables; and operation of farmers' stores had been developed.

During the second decade farmers set up nearly 9,000 local cooperatives for marketing products and nearly 2,000 for purchasing farm supplies.

Following the depression of the early twenties farmers shifted from the setting up of local associations to the formation of large-scale organizations which would serve large areas.

Since 1923, the number of active marketing associations has declined from nearly 12,500 to less than 8,000. Membership in now active cooperatives, however, has increased, as have dollar sales. During the same period farmers' purchasing cooperatives increased by about 500. The local associations of today are larger than those of 20 years ago and the prospects are that those of the future may be still larger.

The number of enterprises functioning as federations, centralized associations, terminal market sales agencies, and bargaining organizations has increased greatly with the probability of further increases.

Kinds of cooperatives that were practically unknown in the early twenties have been appearing with great frequency. Among these are the rural electrification associations, cooperatives for conducting transport businesses, federations of local enterprises for providing management service, cooperatives for operating oil wells, pipe lines, refineries, compounding plants, and various manufacturing enterprises. These new organizations appear to be permanent additions to the farmer cooperative movement.

Cooperation favors sanity, honesty, and consideration for the other fellow. True cooperatives produce neither millionaires nor paupers, but they do furnish opportunities for the many to better their lot. The farmers, with their more than 10,000 active cooperatives, are in control of a force for playing a vital role in these days of conflicting ideas and ambitions. Farmer cooperatives can and should furnish leaders abundantly and thus assist in the formulation of national policies that may mean much for the future.

As cooperatives increase in number, in membership, and in dollar business, farmers will more frequently be invited to sit at the council table at which the reshaping of the economic system is always the main item of business. Not only that, but the farmers will soon demonstrate their ability to shout as loudly and to pound the table as vigorously as bankers, industrialists, and lawyers—who are already past masters in such matters.

PENNSYLVANIA REGAINING IMPORTANCE AS AN AGRICULTURAL STATE

Pennsylvania farmers in 1944 regained for the State its prominence as a potato producing area when the crop of more than 19 million bushels was sufficient to rank the Commonwealth 6th among all the states in total production. This was an advance from 8th place held in 1943, according to records of the State Department of Agriculture, compiled by the Federal-State Crop Reporting Service.

The best Pennsylvania ranking for potatoes held in recent years was 5th place in 1941, when the State also stood 5th in acreage and 4th in value of the crop. The next year the State still ranked 5th in acreage but dropped to 7th in production and 5th in value.

Drought, shortage of labor and machinery in 1943 brought the standing to its lowest wartime point, 7th in acreage, 8th in production and 5th in value. Return in 1944 to 6th in production was accompanied by 6th place in acreage and 5th in value.

Average yield per acre had much to do with the changes in Keystone State potato production ranking during these war years, the report shows. In 1941 Pennsylvania ranked 17th in the Nation with 130 bushels per acre. The next year it was 24th with an average of 112 bushels, but in 1943 advanced to 23rd with 106 bushels. Last year the average yield was 116 bushels per acre and the State advanced to 20th place. In each of the past two years a late, wet spring retarded planting, and summer droughts reduced opportunity for best yields.

In 1938 and 1939 potatoes held third place in total estimated value of all Pennsylvania farm crops, topped only by corn and tame hay. In 1940 potatoes yielded third place to wheat by a margin of $1,278,000 but returned to 3rd in 1942. Last year's spud crop was valued at $34,452,000.

—BLUE LABEL—

TRY THIS ONE!

More milk means more protein, likely to be on the short side in our diets while meat is so scarce.

Dry skim milk has all the protein of fresh fluid milk, so the half-cup of the white powder used in making this meatless main dish for lunch or supper means that as much as an extra one and one-third pints of milk has been added, as far the the protein is concerned. The calcium is there too.

Potato Pancakes

2 cups grated raw potatoes (about 6 medium-sized potatoes)
1 egg, well beaten
1 teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon grated onion
4 tablespoons flour
½ cup dry skim milk

Cover grated potatoes with cold water to prevent discoloration. Combine quickly the remaining ingredients and mix until smooth. Drain potatoes and add to egg mixture. Stir until well blended. Drop by tablespoons onto hot greased griddle or skillet and brown on both sides, using bacon drippings if possible. Serve immediately with apple butter, applesauce, cottage cheese or, again if possible, crisp bacon. Makes about ten 3-inch pancakes.

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

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Warren H. Sames, Bucks
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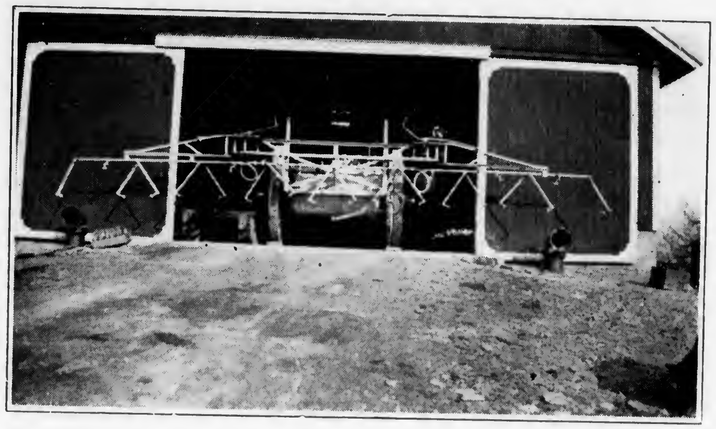
The GUIDE POST

VISION PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS



It is none too early to see that the sprayer is in good working condition. A job for the FIRST RAINY DAY. "It is not ready until it is going thru the field" with all nozzles functioning—300 lbs. with the No. 3 Disc averaging 150 gallons per acre as soon as you can follow the row and NO FUDGING.

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THE GUIDE POST

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THE APPLICATION OF CHEMISTRY TO CROP PRODUCTION

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

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Fortunately the mound builders kept no records of how they grew corn for if they had I dare say they would rob the Indians of the credit of this primitive practice.

What other than the stench did the rotting fish furnish the corn, both the Indians and the Puritans pondered.

It is evident that they and many generations following did little else than ponder for many of us still living remember that fertilizer that did not stink, simply was just not fertilizer.

Even T. B. Terry who did more to dramatize profitable potato growing, three quarters of a century ago, more than any other man who lived, died believing that applying chemicals to potatoes both as fertilizers to the soil and as sprays to the tops were unprofitable.

These conclusions were reached not without very considerable experiments conducted on his own farm under his successful methods as a potato grower.

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The history of applying chemicals as a spray in economical crop production and improvement is equally as romantic and intriguing as that of chemicals applied as fertilizers.

As you know Bordeaux mixture was

an accidental discovery—perhaps like a fish planted beneath a hill of corn. At any rate its discovery was sufficiently recent to prevent its being passed down as a legend.

While 'tis said its first use was to scare youngsters from stealing grapes, it proved to be effective in controlling mildew—the deadly malady of the grape grower.

From that day on to today Bordeaux mixture and its counterpart lime sulphur, discovered later, have been the standard of comparison in one modified form or another for all chemicals applied as a spray for economical crop production and improvement.

One of the first things done to Bordeaux mixture was to find out the best relation of the amount of copper to lime in the formula.

To L. R. Jones, formerly of Vermont Experiment Station, goes a great deal of the credit in determining that 4-4-50 is the standard formula. He and his contemporary workers tried everything from 1-1-50 to 10-10-50 and every ratio of copper to lime from a 5-2-50 to a 2-5-50 and in between. The **best** proved to be a 4-4-50.

Next it was determined just what crops could be sprayed with Bordeaux mixture if not for profit at least without injury. To A. D. Selby, of the Ohio Experiment Station, goes the credit for pioneering and dramatizing the use of Bordeaux mixture as a foliage spray on most fruits and vegetables. He actually did test the use of Bordeaux as a spray on everything from azaleas to zinnias.

Long and loud raged the friendly fight between the advocates of Bordeaux mixture on the one hand and the advocates of Lime sulphur on the other as chemical foliage sprays. So enthusiastic were these young advocates of their chosen chemicals that Bordeaux mixture was a cure all for its champions and the Lime sulphur advocates claimed as much for its proclivities.

These charges and counter charges did result in the public awakening of a new warfare in crop production and crop certainty—that of crop protection with chemicals.

One thing for a certainty had been established namely; that two chemical products had been found which would control or prevent plant parasites such as the mildew causing potato blight and the organism causing apple scab, and not at the same time do serious injury to the foliage on which it was sprayed.

In spite of all this information and a desire on the part of the grower to make his production more certain by removing or controlling the "blight" hazards, the status of spraying, particularly potatoes, from 1901-1920 was at a low ebb.

During this decade the home orchard and the home potato patch was losing money to their owners. To the foliage

BLIGHT CAN BE CONTROLLED

In years when a Blight Epidemic is threatened as is often the case, early sprays are even more vital than late sprays in its control. It is difficult to check the spread of Blight once it has a start especially on young tender foliage. You will find plenty of evidence in this issue, both early and late, for blight control.

Summary of Demonstrations Comparing Sprayed Versus Unsprayed Potatoes, 1918 - 1936

By L. T. Denniston

Former Field Representative of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Inc. and Assistant Plant Pathologist of The Pennsylvania State College

SUMMARY AND AVERAGES

Year	No. Demonstrations	Yield Sprayed	Yield Unsprayed	Increase	Per cent Increase	No. Times Sprayed
1918 - 32	2602	245.9	165.8	80.1	48.3	8.5
1923 - 32	1199	266.5	175.8	90.7	52.4	9.8
1928 - 32	331	265.6	172.5	93.1	53.9	11.5
1933	45	301.7	179.8	121.9	67.7	10.1
1934	46	359.2	264.7	94.5	36.6	10.2
1935	26	307.1	209.5	97.6	46.5	10.5
1936	28	264.1	186.3	77.8	41.7	10.4

expert it was clear that leaves with spots, holes and burned edges could not produce profitable crops.

It was during this period that Alva Agee, writing in the "Pennsylvania Farmer" summed up the status of spraying in the entire North East when he said, "The data of Experiment Stations and that of Practical Farmers as well prove that potato spraying is unprofitable."

In 1918 a systematic spray program was inaugurated in Pennsylvania. Particular attention was paid to (1) timeliness of application—starting early before the trouble started. (2) Manner of applying the spray—high pressure (250 lbs.) to make a penetrating spray, nozzle or gun adjustment to direct the spray properly—hence, the Nixon spray boom. The material was the same old Bordeaux mixture and lime sulphur as worked out by Jones, Selby, Stewart, Waite, Ballou of 40 years ago.

The strange thing about it is that it worked—in fact it almost worked too well, for few know, that it took a lot of conferences to determine in whose field such a successful program of improving crop production belonged.

As a consequence and after a thousand potato sprayers were operating over the fields of Pennsylvania a cooperative spraying project was undertaken throughout the United States and Canada—the summaries indicating that Bordeaux spraying increased yields throughout the Eastern United States and Canada.

Popularizing potato spraying as a field practice in Pennsylvania or elsewhere was not an easy matter. It was done through the result demonstration —spraying the entire field except a small area as a check on the practice. (See illustration).

There are a thousand potato growers in Pennsylvania who have left one of these unsprayed plots in their fields as check. There are many more thousand who have seen them.

It took ten years to entrench this practice in the minds of potato growers. It took even longer for manufacturers of spray equipment and chemicals to realize that here was a coming universal potato production practice.

The fundamental practices of profitable spraying are something which ought to be tenaciously guarded and adhered too, especially by those who have something to lose—namely, the producer first for if it proves to be unprofitable to him it will be unprofitable to the spray equipment manufacturers and the spray chemical manufacturers. None of the details can be overlooked. The mechanics of improperly applying lime sulphur has all but eliminated it as a foliage fruit spray.

The mechanics of too much pressure with too small disc openings has all but nullified the effectiveness of Bordeaux mixture on potatoes.

Again it is just one step from an effective form of lime for preparing Bordeaux to one that is worthless. Do not let the magic words "chemically hydrated" throw you off guard. Hydrating any lime is a chemical process.

One other thing under no circumstances dump any form of copper sulphate of whatever fineness directly into the tank or wash it through even a 20 mesh screen. It should be dissolved through at least two thicknesses of burlap particularly if it is the snow form. Remember copper sulphate must be in solution—not microscopical suspension to make an effective Bordeaux.

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BLIGHT CAN BE CONTROLLED

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Summary of Demonstrations Comparing Sprayed Versus Unsprayed Potatoes, 1918 - 1936

By L. T. Denniston

Former Field Representative of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Inc. and Assistant Plant Pathologist of The Pennsylvania State College

SUMMARY AND AVERAGES

Year	No. Demonstrations	Yield Sprayed	Yield Unsprayed	Increase	Per cent Increase	No. Times Sprayed
1918 - 32	2602	245.9	165.8	80.1	48.3	8.5
1923 - 32	1199	266.5	175.8	90.7	52.4	9.8
1928 - 32	331	265.6	172.5	93.1	53.9	11.5
1933	45	301.7	179.8	121.9	67.7	10.1
1934	46	359.2	264.7	94.5	36.6	10.2
1935	26	307.1	209.5	97.6	46.5	10.5
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In 1918 a systematic spray program was inaugurated in Pennsylvania. Particular attention was paid to (1) timeliness of application—starting early before the trouble started. (2) Manner of applying the spray—high pressure (250 lbs.) to make a penetrating spray, nozzle or gun adjustment to direct the spray properly—hence, the Nixon spray boom. The material was the same old Bordeaux mixture and lime sulphur as worked out by Jones, Selby, Stewart, Waite, Ballou of 40 years ago.

The strange thing about it is that it worked—in fact it almost worked too well, for few know, that it took a lot of conferences to determine in whose field such a successful program of improving crop production belonged.

As a consequence and after a thousand potato sprayers were operating over the fields of Pennsylvania a cooperative spraying project was undertaken throughout the United States and Canada—the summaries indicating that Bordeaux spraying increased yields throughout the Eastern United States and Canada.

Popularizing potato spraying as a field practice in Pennsylvania or elsewhere was not an easy matter. It was done through the result demonstration —spraying the entire field except a small area as a check on the practice. (See illustration).

There are a thousand potato growers in Pennsylvania who have left one of these unsprayed plots in their fields as check. There are many more thousand who have seen them.

It took ten years to entrench this practice in the minds of potato growers. It took even longer for manufacturers of spray equipment and chemicals to realize that here was a coming universal potato production practice.

The fundamental practices of profitable spraying are something which ought to be tenaciously guarded and adhered too, especially by those who have something to lose—namely, the producer first for if it proves to be unprofitable to him it will be unprofitable to the spray equipment manufacturers and the spray chemical manufacturers. None of the details can be overlooked. The mechanics of improperly applying lime sulphur has all but eliminated it as a foliage fruit spray.

The mechanics of too much pressure with too small disc openings has all but nullified the effectiveness of Bordeaux mixture on potatoes.

Again it is just one step from an effective form of lime for preparing Bordeaux to one that is worthless. Do not let the magic words "chemically hydrated" throw you off guard. Hydrating any lime is a chemical process.

One other thing under no circumstances dump any form of copper sulphate of whatever fineness directly into the tank or wash it through even a 20 mesh screen. It should be dissolved through at least two thicknesses of burlap particularly if it is the snow form. Remember copper sulphate must be in solution—not microscopical suspension to make an effective Bordeaux.

an accidental discovery—perhaps like a fish planted beneath a hill of corn. At any rate its discovery was sufficiently recent to prevent its being passed down as a legend.

While 'tis said its first use was to scare youngsters from stealing grapes, it proved to be effective in controlling mildew—the deadly malady of the grape grower.

From that day on to today Bordeaux mixture and its counterpart lime sulphur, discovered later, have been the standard of comparison in one modified form or another for all chemicals applied as a spray for economical crop production and improvement.

One of the first things done to Bordeaux mixture was to find out the best relation of the amount of copper to lime in the formula.

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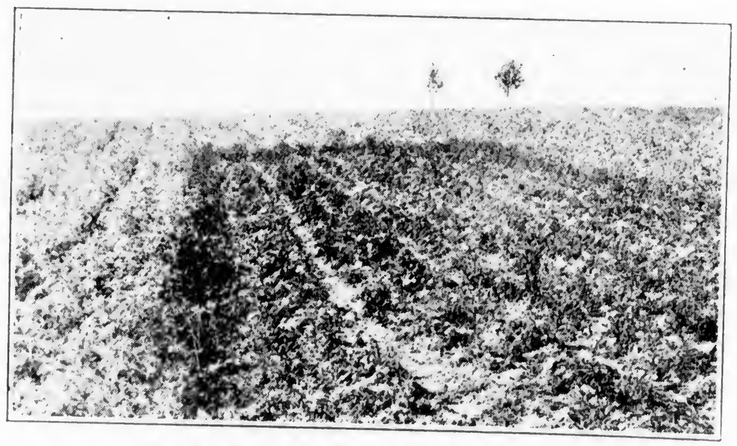

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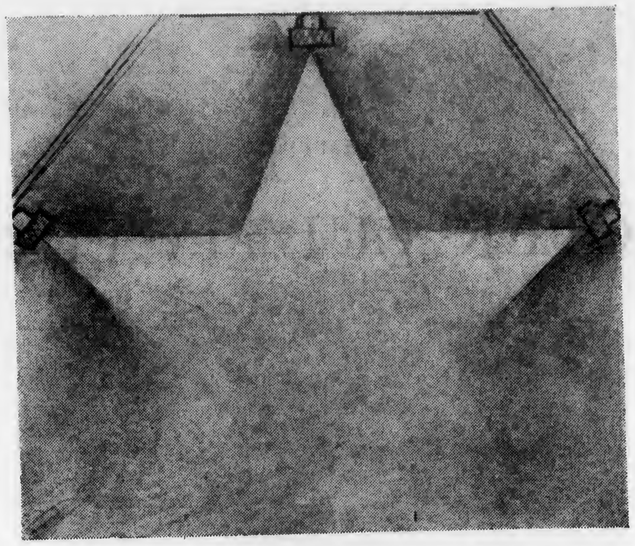


"THE PERFECT SPRAY STAR"
Technical analysis reveals that the ideal spray pattern is in the form of a distinct star. When you see THIS you are doing a good job.

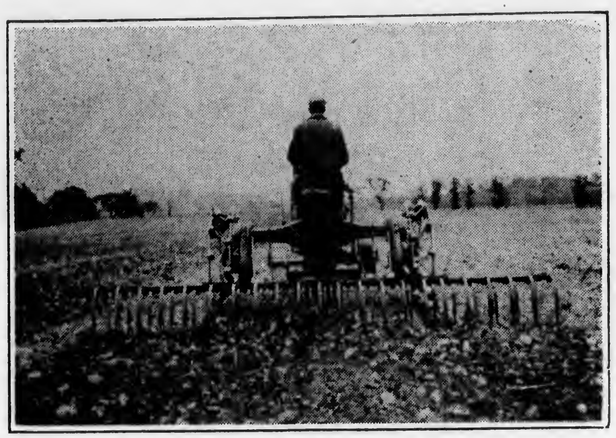
The drifting of material over the vines is not enough. The plants in the direct line of force are protected.

This boom did not reach far enough. Note how the vines have died down from blight where only the indirect force from the nozzles settled on the plants.

Foresight as Well as *Hindsight*

Important in

PROPER CULTIVATION



Deep planting, proper weeding and cultivating causes the development of a deep root system. A deep root system is valuable in seasons of draught. Further proper weeding trains the vines in one direction one over lapping the other thus serving as a shade which conserves moisture and lowers soil temperature where the tubers are developing.

Remember PROPER CULTIVATING supplementing PROPER WEEDING MAKES for the ART of potato growing. Ask yourself the question frequently, "Now what am I attempting to accomplish?" Control weeds? If you can see them its too late. Make a smooth hard surface? Don't—keep it rough. Prune the roots? Never—adopt a SYSTEM of cultivating. Start deep and end up shallow.

Potato roots will grow shallow if the soil is not disturbed. They will not develop in the upper two or three inches of the soil if it is moved or disturbed at weekly intervals, and no injury will be done by such a systematic practice. The injury is done from tearing off the established root system, by going too deep or at too long intervals, between cultivations.

The purposes of cultivation or weeding are to **control weeds,** to **keep the soil loose** and **rough,** better to take up the rain and prevent run-off, to induce a **deep root system,** to create the ideal conditions for the set and development of normal tubers by reducing soil temperature through proper soil manipulation and training of vines to provide the greatest possible shading of the tubers at the critical stages of their development.

He Knows His POTATOES

By BERTRAM B. FOWLER

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IVAN MILLER
Corry, RD, Pennsylvania

A step-by step account of the methods of Ivan Miller, who started from scratch in 1937 and is now Pennsylvania's biggest grower.

When Ivan Miller left Wayne County, Ohio, to settle on a piece of land at Beaver Dam Flats in Erie County, Pennsylvania, in the spring of 1937, the consensus of opinion throughout the community was that Ivan was slightly touched in the head. Other men had tried potato raising in those parts, and many of them had lost their shirts.

The boys talked it over in the village store and agreed that even if it could be done, Ivan lacked both the experience and equipment to do the job. Moreover, the 160 acres of land on which he had put a down payment was in bad shape. In that particular belt the potatoes would freeze up before he could dig them. The boys knew.

There were many arguments confirming these convictions. Ivan Miller had grown potatoes in Wayne County, Ohio, and it had been far from profitable. He had landed in Erie County with an old second-hand tractor, some other second-hand equipment and $2,000 in cash. When he appealed to the Farm Credit Administration for a loan, he was told to go ahead and put in a crop and show what he could do. If he made a go of it, they added, there was a fair chance that next year he could get a loan.

What the local boys failed to appreciate was that Ivan had abundant faith in himself. His Ohio venture had by no means discouraged him. He was convinced that the one factor that had defeated him there had been high land values. Under the circumstances he had been licked before he started. So, in the light of that experience, he had chosen Erie County where land prices were low enough to enable a man to operate on a shoestring.

Confidently he put the rest of his money into seed and wangled credit to get fertilizer—high-analysis fertilizer in quantities that bewildered the boys. Gravely they shook their heads. Surely such fertilizer would burn out his crop. But the young upstart Ivan—he was then only thirty-two years old—went right ahead. He put in 100 acres of potatoes, rattled his remaining dimes in his pocket and started spraying. Neighboring farmers were aghast. Of course spraying was necessary, but this foolish young man was wantonly throwing his money and credit away, spraying once a week all through the summer.

Ivan had the last laugh that year, as he has had it every year since. At digging time he harvested 25,000 bushels of potatoes. But all around him blight had wiped out the potato crop on farm after farm. Ivan sold his 25,000 bushels to the same neighbors who had predicted his certain failure. That spraying had saved his crop.

As soon as the crop was marketed Ivan invested everything he had. Land prices were still low. But he realized that if he made a success of his venture, land prices would start to climb, as more and more farmers went in for potato growing. So he paid off his bills and with the balance made down payments on three more farms totaling 650 acres.

Nevertheless, the wise men continued to be pessimistic about the whole business. The land in that section is sandy loam with a gravel sub-soil; good land for potato growing if you can keep up the fertility. Nobody believed Ivan could do it. Others had not been able to, so why should this youngster from Ohio expect to do so? The figures on potato production in that section were there for anyone to read. It just happened that Ivan didn't bother reading figures of failures. He had his own ideas and believed in them firmly enough to be willing to gamble everything he had.

With winter at its coldest and spring still a long way ahead, Ivan was down to his last two dollars. Everything else was invested in run-down land covered with dilapidated buildings. Even so, Ivan had been canny. The farms he bought had been dairy farms. Ivan had plans for all those buildings. When he succeeded, he planned to use them for homes for his permanent help. Furthermore, the big dairy barns, with a little conversion, would make perfect packing and storage sheds.

That year FCA came through with a $4500 loan which enabled him to put in his second crop. Althuogh Ivan's neighbors still remained skeptical, the local officers of FCA were more than impressed. They knew the sacrifices Ivan had made to get that first crop in. They knew that his methods had been proved when he harvested his crop in a year of crop failures.

That second year he put in 190 acres with his old secondhand tractor and wobbly equipment. It meant working day and night. But Ivan was not merely putting in a crop of potatoes. He was laying the foundation for his future. If this, 190-acre crop came through, as Ivan believed it would, the Miller family would have its roots in prosperity for keeps.

When he harvested 40,000 bushels of potatoes in the fall he knew he was over the hump. There still would be some hard sledding ahead, for Ivan had ambitious plans for his business. But the threat of failure no longer dogged his plans.

Today Ivan is Pennsylvania's biggest potato grower and has 1100 acres of his own. He operates seven trucks, two of them big refrigerated van jobs for long hauls to the markets. He now has four tractors with the newest and best equipment to put in his crop, spray and harvest it. Four big dairy barns have been insulated and converted into packing and storage sheds, with storage capacity for 100,000 bushels—which is the crop that he took off four hundred acres this year. The farm houses have been modernized to provide homes for his permanent help, and it is all free and clear. Ivan owes no man a nickel and has cash reserves on hand to meet any normal demand. The fear of a crop failure is not an ominous threat. In fact, an early freeze one year amounted almost to a crop failure. But even in that year he made a small profit on his operations

In a section where the fertility trend is pretty consistently downward on potato land, the trend on Ivan's acres is just as consistently upward. The explanation lies in those acreage figures. With 1100 acres of his own, he has only 400 acres in potatoes. Therein, Ivan believes, lies the solution to the problem of keeping fertility up on potato land.

He believes in short rotation. After he has taken off his crop of potatoes, Ivan seeds the land down to rye grass and clover. Here again the neighbors considered him mildly insane when he drilled in more fertilizer with the rye grass and clover. But again Ivan proved that he knew what he was doing. He wanted a real lush clover crop to plow under as green humus. The fertilizer gave the crop a flying start and no farm in that section turned back the amount of humus that Ivan's did with his forced clover crop.

This point looms as all-important in Ivan's mind. At the present time he is experimenting with new crops to rotate, in an attempt to keep constantly increasing the amount of humus in the soil. Also, it is interesting to note that this type of short crop rotation has practically eliminated wire worms and

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

Attention, Grade Supervisors

It has been found necessary to request the **return** of all Association Official Grade Supervisors and Inspectors Stamp's numbering from 1 to 500 inclusive to the **central office,** Willaimsport, for reconditioning and re-registration. Many stamps have become badly worn, damaged and in many instances unreadable.

A new stamp with a definite official identification will be issued to active qualified graders and packers of **Blue Label** potatoes without cost to the original holder. Every effort will be made to assign the **same number** as of the original issue.

Young men away from home or in the military service will have new stamps issued to them upon their request as soon as their old stamps have been returned. In the case of lost stamps adjustments will be made as soon as possible.

Please send all **Old Stamps** numbering from 1 to 500 inclusive to Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, 410 Campbell St., Williamsport at your earliest opportunity for they will be declared **null and void** this coming sales season of 1945-1946.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff
Secretary

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING RELATIONSHIP

—BLUE LABEL—

Efficient production of potatoes is a positive prerequisite to any successful marketing program. Good seed of an acceptable variety well planted and well fertilized in a deep humus filled root bed is obviously necessary to the production of a big yield of marketable tubers. These factors are no more essential, however, than a thorough program of cultivation and weeding and efficient spraying. Any one of the above practices, poorly done may easily spell failure to the grower of potatoes in this state or any other state. The growers task now is to observe and practice approved and accepted production methods.

If recommendations and suggestions discussed in recent GUIDE POST'S, weather and labor permitting, are adopted and followed conscientionsly and energetically we see no reason why there should be potato failures among Association members. We firmly believe with local adaptations practices recommended are right and can be followed with success on Pennsylvania farms.

Production and marketing go hand in hand if profits and satisfaction are to be attained. Either one poorly done means a loss that most growers cannot afford. Considering the entire picture one phase whether it be production or marketing cannot be slighted or emphasized without the other. There is no need of efficiently producing a bumper crop and then falling down on efficient, equitable, economical marketing. Many agree each phase is just as important to the success or failure of potato growers.

A sound marketing program predicated up the production of quality has been established by your Association. Without this basis no program of marketing can possibly succeed. When we ordinarily speak of a marketing program most of us immediately feel that we are talking about **selling.** Selling is only one phase of marketing. The entire marketing picture, it seems to me, includes:

Harvesting, storing, assemblying, grading, packaging, advertising, selling, distributing and, lastly, bill collecting.

Each of these phases of the marketing picture is an important task of the potato grower. The reason why many agree that the harvesting job is a phase of marketing is because a crop may be exceptionally well grown as to size, quantity and quality but when poorly dug, picked up and hauled to the warehouse all previous painstaking care and skill in production may be nullified. Too often have we seen good prospects blasted during the digging season. Rough handling of green tubers is poor business just as rough handling of the major fruits is poor business and most costly. Preparations for careful handling of 1945's potato crop should be made **now. Remember**—half of the job of the potato growers is production while the other half is certainly a marketing problem involving digging, storing, assemblying, grading, packaging, advertising, selling, distributing and financing.

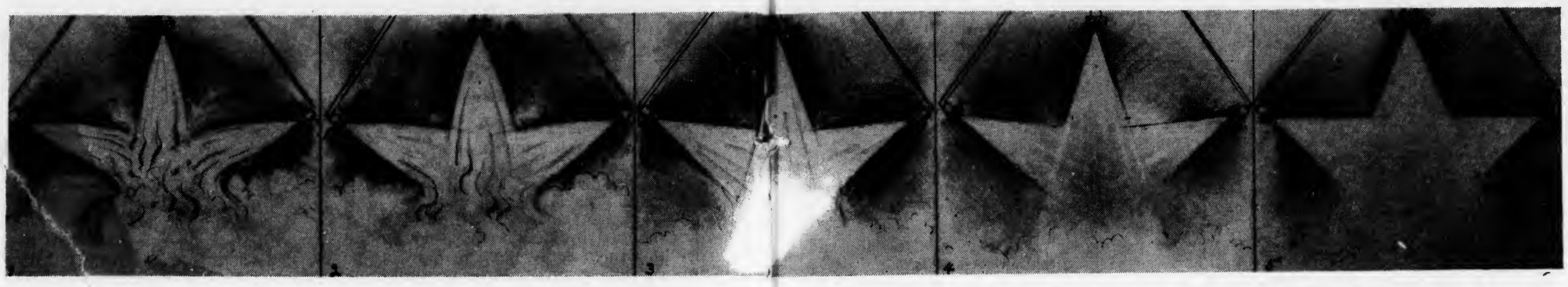
Your Cooperative Association has been given as its major activity the job of marketing Pennsylvania potatoes. It is concerned with every phase of the marketing picture. It has done a most efficient job in previous years and is in a position to do even a better and more efficient job in the years to come. Experience has proven that more of the consumers dollar finds the cooperating potato growers' pocket when he markets the **Cooperative Way,** through the **Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association.** Plan **now** to market well—harvest, store and grade carefully and sell, distribute and collect cooperatively.

IRREGULAR PAGINATION

THE PRINCIPLES OF PROFITABLE SPRAYING

ANALYSIS OF QUANTITY AND QUALITY SPRAY IN RELATION TO PRESSURE AND SIZE OF DISC

—By Dr. E. L. Nixon



630 pounds pressure; 1/32" disc; 630 pounds pressure; 3/64" disc; 400 pounds pressure; 1/32" disc; 300 pounds pressure; 1/32" disc; 300 pounds pressure; 3/64" disc.

The illustration above portrays the quantity and quality relationship of spray from five sets of conditions. We are indebted to the A. B. Farquhar Company of York, Penna. for furnishing all the equipment and labor necessary for making the detailed study of the quantity and quality of sprays under varying pressures, and disc openings.

The chart below presents the number of gallons per minute discharged at various pressures and disc openings.

Farquhar Nozzle No.	Disc Opening	Pressure	Gal. per Min. per 3 Nozzle Row	Gallons per Minute 6 Rows	8 Rows	10 Rows
2	2/64"	600	1.40	8.40	11.20	14.00
3	3/64"	600	2.28	13.68	18.24	22.80
4	4/64"	600	3.60	21.60	28.80	36.00
5	5/64"	600	4.52	27.12	36.16	45.20
2	2/64"	500	1.32	7.92	10.56	13.20
3	3/64"	500	2.05	12.30	16.40	20.50
4	4/64"	500	3.24	19.44	25.92	32.40
5	5/64"	500	4.21	25.26	33.68	42.10
2	2/64"	400	1.12	6.72	8.96	11.20
3	3/64"	400	1.86	11.16	14.88	18.60
4	4/64"	400	2.88	17.28	23.04	28.80
5	5/64"	400	3.74	22.44	29.92	37.40
2	2/64"	300	1.00	6.00	8.00	10.00
3	3/64"	300	1.63	9.78	13.04	16.30
4	4/64"	300	2.66	15.96	21.28	26.60
5	5/64"	300	3.22	19.32	25.76	32.20

The significance of all this is:

(1). 300 lbs. pressure with a number 3 disc is the most efficient.

(2). What is needed is a **driving** spray. What is converted into a fog or smoke is wasted.

(3). 400 pounds pressure and number 5 disc is about the equivalent of 300 lbs. pressure and number 3 disc.

(4). 150 gallons per acre per application is the most efficient. **Correlate pressure disc opening and gallons per acre.**

FOLIAGE COVERAGE

Dr. O. D. Burke, Agricultural Extension Service
Pennsylvania State College

WHY SPRAY? Potato spraying means "turning potato losses into profit." Such a broad statement needs amplification and justification. When one realizes that the average yield for the state is 116 bushels per acre and that it costs on the average more than $125 to grow an acre of potatoes, then that statement of losses is easily justified. Truly we need something to increase yields. Commercial growers have found 200, 300, 400 or more bushels per acre possible when spraying is practiced. As early as 1918, Extension demonstrations have shown that spraying pays, but just why it pays is more difficult to answer. Let me list three reasons: (1) Disease control, (2) Insect control, and (3) Physiological effects of the spray. Disease control involves two main diseases, late and early blight and principally late blight. Late blight appears each year in some part of the State and about every five years has been present in most of the State and every ten years in epidemic form, causing very serious losses. Usually preceding these serious blight years are one or two years in which the amount of blight is on the increase. This is in part due to growers having slackened their spraying efforts but more because weather seems to follow cycles and because we are entering a cycle of wet cool weather favorable to potato growing and to late blight development. Then following the serious blight years is another series of years in which local or isolated losses from the disease occurs. Blight development is favored by cool nights (55°-60°F) followed by days that are warm (below 80°F) and humid. Early blight winters on potato refuse, is difficult to control, and is favored by dry, hot weather. (2) Insect control is highly important, since flea beetles, aphids and leaf hoppers are present in varying numbers each year. (3) Physiological effects are as yet controversial, some claiming that bordeaux stimulates growth, others that it shades, others that it retards top development and increases root growth, thus preventing tip burn. Be that as it may, there is undoubtedly some effect from spraying that increases yield other than pest control.

WITH WHAT TO SPRAY has in the last few years become an important phase of this subject of foliage protection. Let us first take Extension demonstrations in which bordeaux mixture has been recommended and demonstrated.

	Ave. increase per acre in bushels	*No. of Dems.*
1918-27	73.5	2291
1928-37	96.7	499
1938-44	125.9	120

Such figures are of value to show that spraying pays when the better materials are used and when the job is done right. These figures were obtained on some of the better potato growers' farms where yields were high and differences large.

Now as to research. In 1941, a series of tests were started to determine the value of those new materials that are coming on the market in an effort to find a material that can replace the war-critical copper of bordeaux. Dr. Thurston, of The Pennsylvania State College Research staff, conducting these tests, with the assistance of Mr. Harry, tried 44 materials in 1944. It is of interest to note that in these tests the four highest yielding materials were bordeaux mixture with or without other materials added. It is of further interest that concentrations of 4-4-100, 8-8-100 and 12-12-100 were used and that there were no significant differences in yield between these strengths although the yield ranged from 163 bushels per acre up to 174 bushels. When an 8-8-100 bordeaux was used but no sprays applied during the dry weather of July, a significantly lower yield per acre resulted. From the disease control viewpoint, there seems no reason to change from the standard bordeaux that has been recommended in the past although some variation in the formula may be advisable. These figures emphasize the need for making applications at weekly intervals even though weather is dry and hot.

WHEN TO SPRAY—Late blight control is one function of foilage coverage. To appreciate the need for proper timing of sprays to control this disease one must know something of the life history of the fungus causing blight. It overwinters in a dormant condition in blighted tubers. When a diseased tuber is planted or when put on a refuse heap, the fungus begins to grow. It spreads into the newly emerged stalk where it fruits, producing spores (seed) in abundance. The spores are carried by splashing rain or a slight breeze to neighboring plants, where new infection is started. Many spores are washed into the soil, thereby causing tuber rot.

Late blight spreads rapidly only during wet weather and when the temperature drops to 55 or 60°F. A 6- or 8-hour period of rain or high humidity is required for spore formation, which must be followed by a period of one hour or more at the reduced temperature for spore germination. Since this combination of rain and cool weather does not ordinarily occur during the early summer months, the blight is usually "late."

To control blight, the plants must be kept well covered with spray at all times. Spray does not cure blighted leaves, but acts rather as a protectant. Thus, when a blight spore falls upon a sprayed leaf, the copper kills the spores before it gains entrance. Spraying should begin as soon as the rows can be followed and repeated at 7- to 10-day intervals. If one delays spraying until the first blight is seen, it is then impossible to cover the lower leaves. During periods of very rapid growth and favorable blight weather, it may be necessary to spray as often as every 3 or 4 days. It is very desirable to spray before a rain, rather than after, if possible. The foliage is then well covered with copper and the spores which are formed and disseminated during the rain are killed.

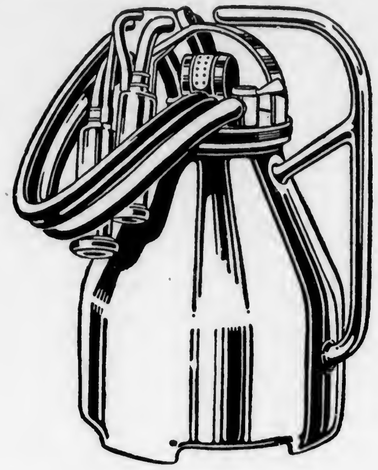
HOW TO SPRAY — Disease control depends on complete coverage of both upper and lower sides of the leaves of the potato plant. No boom or nozzle arrangement has been found that attains perfect coverage, however, when the three essentials to "manner" of spraying given here have been followed, good disease control has been obtained.

1. **Use high pressures.** Although good coverage can be obtained at pressures as low as 250 pounds, better coverage results from the use of higher pressures. Three hundred and fifty to 400 pounds give better results than either higher or lower pressures.

2. **Adjust nozzles for maximum efficiency.** Experience has shown that good coverage can be obtained when three

Continued on page twenty-three

CONDE MILKING MACHINES



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Potatoes	**587 Bushels per acre.**
Dried Tobacco	**2512 Pounds per acre.**
Snap Beans	**7 Tons per acre.**
Tomatoes	**17 Tons per acre.**
Peas	**4 Tons per acre.**
Alfalfa	**5 Cuttings per year.**

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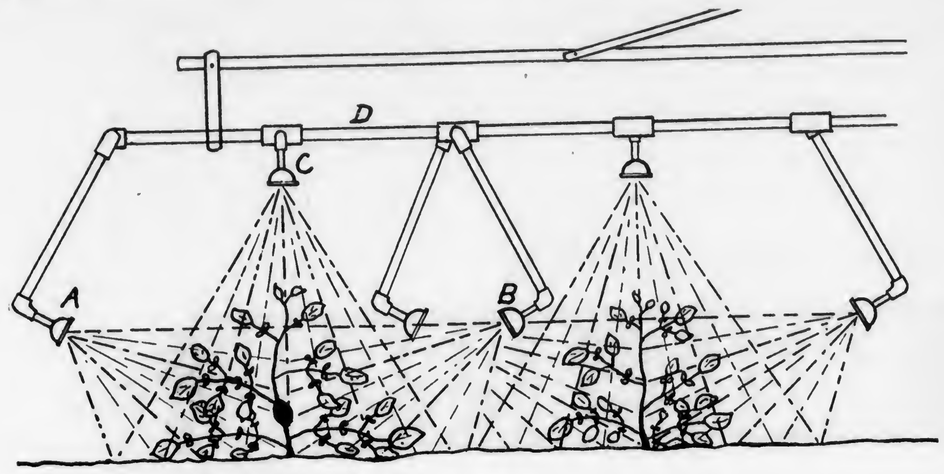

— Fig. 1 —

Foliage Coverage—

Continued from page nineteen

nozzles are used to each row. All three nozzles which spray row 1 should be on the same side of the main boom line (D in diagram in Figure 1). You will note in the diagram that the three nozzles for row 2 are on the opposite side of line D from those spraying row 1. This alternating arrangement continues across the boom, the nozzles for one row being on one side and for the next row on the other side. Coverage is adequate when A is 42 to 44 inches from B, and when the tops of the spray cones issuing from nozzles A and B form a straight line between these two nozzles. Nozzle C should be at least 14 inches and better about 16 inches above the line connecting the two nozzles A and B. This allows for a good spread before the spray strikes the spray line of the side arms.

3. **Use an adequate amount of spray to give complete coverage.** When plants are small, 100 gallons per acre may be enough, but with larger plants as much as 150 gallons are needed. The amount of spray applied is limited by pump and nozzle capacities when proper pressures are maintained. A pump with a capacity of $2\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per minute per row will discharge 150 gallons per acre, provided the nozzle orifice is at least $\frac{3}{64}$-inch and the sprayer moves at a rate of speed not over three miles per hour.

Ivan Miller—

Continued from page eleven

grubs with which the land was infested when he took it over.

Ivan has long since sold his neighbors on the idea of high-analysis fertilizer. Many of them now follow his rule of an 8-24-24 formula. It is Ivan's belief that he must put 150 pounds of potash, 50 of nitrogen and 150 pounds of available phosphorus to the acre in order to obtain the best results.

The smarter growers now follow Ivan's rule of spraying. And when he says once a week, he means once a week. From the time the plants are up they are given that spray once a week —rain or shine—using three nozzles to the row on a Nixon boom. Here is another point on which he is inflexible. A few of his neighbors still question this "any-weather spraying." But the soundness of this procedure is proved every year in Ivan's consistently heavy crops.

Another of his methods that startled the boys was his rule of deep planting. The seed must go in three and one half to four inches below the surface of the soil. In this way he gets the potatoes down where there is more moisture during the dry months. Then, on the last cultivation, he throws more dirt up around the plants. Under this system his losses by sunburn are practically nil.

Just as he is consistently inflexible in applying his spraying rules, so he is in his drive against weeds. Rain or shine his acres get a working over with a weeder twice a week for the first three weeks. After that the plants get three more cultivations, the first one deep to loosen up the soil, the last one shallow, primarily for the purpose of throwing that dirt up around the plants.

Ask Ivan for a set of rules for successful potato growing and he will add to the foregoing, one more—timeliness. Every move he makes is planned to utilize every minute. He plants his three varieties, early, medium and late, thus spreading out his planting season and allowing for a long digging season.

Ivan is quick to attribute part of his success to the marketing job being done by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association. He does a thorough grading job, packs his potatoes in the standard bag put out by the Association and ships his potatoes to markets where prices have been established by the Association.

Beyond his potato-growing activities, Ivan does little other farming. He has not a single head of livestock on his place. He claims that potato growing is a highly specialized business, demanding all of a grower's time and thought.

—BLUE LABEL—

National Farm Safety Week

The week beginning July 22, 1945 will be observed as "National Farm Safety Week" in recognition of the part the farmers of the United States have played in the winning of the war.

President Truman's proclamation designating the week for that purpose asserts inevitable decrease in available farm labor this year "creates an especially urgent need for conserving the farm manpower to meet production goals in 1945.

Incidently, the President calls attention to the fact that accidents which cause approximately 16,800 farm residents to lose their lives annually and 1,500,000 other to suffer injuries constitutes an **"unnecessary waste of human life as well as of time and material."** He therefore calls upon farm organizations and other groups to join in the education of farm people to the proper precautions for eliminating farm hazards and "to stimulate a nation-wide determination to stop the needless waste of irreplaceable farm manpower and property."

Apropos of the President's "Farm Safety Week" proclamation it is interesting to note that the U. S. Department of Agriculture forecasts, despite unfavorable weather conditions in many sections, "a record winter wheat crop" and forecasts a prospective near-record acreage of food, feed and other fiber crops which should provide the country with a total output comparing "rather favorably with the excellent showings of the past three years"—providing, of course, farmers get a reasonable break from now on in the weather.

On the whole, however, the outlook is not as serious as some observers would have you believe.

"LOST" POTATO ACRES

B. E. Brown, Senior Biochemist
Agricultural Research, U. S. Department of Agriculture

One of the biggest jobs facing America at the present time, and undoubtedly for some time to come, is the production of food—food for our armed forces, for our civilian population, and for our allies. One of our most important food crops is the potato. The consumption of potatoes is reported to be on the increase because: (1) More people are at work, many of whom are doing harder work than heretofore, as a result of which there is greater spending power, as well as more need for energy-producing food, which the potato helps to supply; and (2) there is greater consumption of fresh and dehydrated potatoes on the part of the armed forces, who no doubt eat considerably more potatoes per man than when engaged in peacetime pursuits.

The need for an ample supply of potatoes can hardly be over-emphasized in wartime. A lost crop of potatoes not only means an actual loss of food but a loss as well of time, labor, seed, and fertilizer used. Such an experience must be bitterly disappointing to a potato grower who tried to do his utmost to produce a crop and failed because of adverse conditions.

In looking up potato production statistics recently, the writer noted some statistics that were of sufficient interest to warrant consideration. The figures are given in adjoining columns in "Agricultural Statistics, 1942," issued by the United States Department of Agriculture. The first column is headed "Acreage planted," the second, "Acreage harvested." These records run continuously from 1929 to 1941.

Taking the recorded figures as a basis, the average acreage of potatoes planted for the 12-year period 1929 to 1940 was 3,300,667; the average acreage harvested was 3,236,834. This means that on an average 63,833 acres planted to potatoes were unharvested. The range in "lost" acres varied from a low of 22,000 acres in 1929 to a high of 163,000 in 1934.(1*) The average yield per acre for the 12-year period was 114 bushels.

Perhaps, offhand, one would be inclined to dismiss the loss as a "normal" one, the result of various hazards, natural or otherwise, as well as of low prices. It is true that the loss is just about 2 per cent of the total acreage planted (2*), but if one should express this in terms of actual bushels of potatoes, the loss seems more impressive. Assuming that these "lost" acres might have yielded at the average rate of 114 bushels per acre the loss in production would have been something more than 7¼ million bushels. If a lower average yield is taken say 80 bushels per acre, the loss would still be a little more than 5 million bushels—enough to feed approximately 2 million consumers before the war.

While there is no intention on the part of the writer of implying there should be no loss at all, nevertheless a pertinent question arises as to whether an acreage loss as large as that reported is entirely justifiable. Would, for example, experienced growers in Aroostook County, Maine, on Long Island, or in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and elsewhere condone a loss year after year of 2 acres out of a hundred planted because of poor soil conditions? If such a loss occurred for a single year it is the opinion of the writer, based on year-by-year contacts with many growers, that the cause of the trouble would be promptly and effectively removed.

What Causes Likely Contribute to Acre

Two kinds of factors are likely involved: (1) Controllable and (2) uncontrollable. Under (1) fall the various practices left to the judgment of the potato grower himself. Under (2) the so-called natural hazards arising primariiy from floods, hail, drought, freezes, and to some extent, windstorms.

Considering briefly some of the controllable factors certain questions arise:

(1) Was the site suitable for growing potatoes?

This would refer especially to whether the land was subject to overflow or of serious washing. If so, there seems no valid reason for planting potatoes on such land. If the prospective crop is lost as a result of excessive flooding or washing, any money spent for seed or fertilizer is so much wasted. It is bad enough to plant heavy, poorly drained land with tight subsoil or deep, quick-drying, sandy land; but it is much worse to use soils subject to the direct water hazards pointed out above.

(2) What about the seed bed? Was it deep and well prepared, so as to insure retention of rainfall, root penetration, and good tuber shape?

(3) Was good disease-free seed (certified) used rather than disease-ridden stock? Was the seed stock stored properly to prevent deterioration? Was it cut and handled properly to planting time? Was the variety planted adaptable to the environmental conditions?

(4) Was fertilizer used? If so, was it so applied as to avoid injury to the seed piece?

(5) Was spraying efficiently conducted in order to control fungous diseases and insect pests? Were dump piles avoided?

(6) Was the crop properly taken care of with respect to cultivation and other cultural operations?

(7) In sections where common scab is troublesome and the potato crop may lose considerable commercial value as a result thereof, are there scab-resistant varieties for trial? Is the degree of scabbing in such cases too great to warrant soil treatment? Or, would a combination of the two —soil treatment and growing a scab-resistant variety—offer greater insurance against scab?

The foregoing probably are of most concern to the potato farmer. If one or more of them is neglected, disappointing results may likely follow and a contribution to the "lost" acres made possible.

Considering next the so-called uncontrollable factors, the matter of rainfall, either excessive or deficient, is important. Prolonged rains falling on land unsuited for potatoes may cause total loss of crop through prolonged flooding or washing (3*). Seed pieces subjected to undue submergence may rot or develop weak plants incapable of forming merchantable tubers. As a result, another contribution to the "lost" acres. Planting potatoes on such unsuitable land is a distinct gamble and should be avoided.

Prolonged drought is a serious factor, especially if potatoes are planted on too-light soil or on soil lacking in humus. Such soils are reputed to dry out faster than those containing plenty of actively decaying organic matter. In this connection, these questions might be raised: Is there a potato variety more drought-resistant than the one being grown? Or, could perhaps another crop relatively more drought-resistant than the potato be grown more advantageously? In Aroostook County, Maine, the writer has observed that Irish Cobbler, in comparison with Green Mountain, suffers more from drought (4*), and as a result produces relatively a lower yield when grown under abnormally dry conditions, whereas the Green Mountain grown in Aroostook County usually continues to "take it" until the drought is over and then proceeds to make a very satisfactory yield. Again, in Pennsylvania the Russet Rural can take a beating from drought and still finish the season with fairly high yields. No doubt the extent of root and foliage development is important in drought resistance, as well as the time and duration of the drought in relation to tuber setting.

Either excessively low or high temperature affects potato plants adversely. Freezing temperature may lead to acreage losses. More often, however, the trouble involves delayed coming-up due to killing back, followed, in many cases, by subsequent recovery. Excessively high temperature causes rapid loss of moisture directly from the soil and through the plant foliage. To some extent timely cultivation and spraying appear to ameliorate this condition, as well as a deep, well-prepared seed bed to encourage root penetration. Drought can be controlled through irrigation, if practicable to install a system.

Reference is made herein to "lost" potato acres reported as planted but not harvested. Over a 12-year period, 1929 to 1940 the average acreage "loss" amounted to 63,833 acres. Under wartime conditions, in particular, one may be justified in raising the question: Does this constitute an irreparable loss? Or, can it be cut down in large measures by the elimination of unsuitable land and the adoption of practices conceded to be proper by experienced potato growers?

To grow potatoes, a crop that appreciates suitable soil conditions and responds thereto, on unfit land usually leads to disappointment and economic loss. Not only are seed and fertilizer, which should have been utilized on better land, wasted, but time and energy are also wasted. Seemingly it would have been much better for all concerned if the time and energy so dissipated had been used to help out a neighboring farmer in growing an increased acreage on good potato land; either that, or to grow some other crop if conditions warrant the attempt.

During the wartime period, when potato growers have been urged to produce something more than 407 million bushels of potatoes in 1943, every acre of farmland that is plowed and fitted for potatoes must be counted on to produce to its greatest capacity. Every acre should be harvested. *Slacker acres are unpatriotic acres.* No grower can afford to start off on the wrong foot and wind up the production race defeated because he tried to grow his crop under adverse conditions. *It would be much better were he to leave the seed, fertilizer, and spray materials for potato growers who do possess suitable land.*

While it may be impossible to eliminate all the acreage loss sustained by commercial potato growers, nevertheless, the possibilities for reducing it would seem well worth exploring. It is hardly conceivable that any industry would choose to adopt a do-nothing-about-it policy and thereby condone a large "chronic loss".

Might it prove desirable, therefore, to ascertain where the acreage losses occur and what constitute the main underlying causes? Does the situation appear to warrant some attention and corrective effort on the part of agricultural agencies concerned with problems affecting potato production and land utilization? Or should the matter be dropped on the assumption that the acreage losses reported are unavoidable and that to attempt to make anything out of the matter would be like trying to "make a mountain out of a mole-hill?"

(1*) In 1929 prices received by potato farmers averaged high; in 1943, low prices prevailed It is to be hoped that in 1943 the "lost" potato acres will be "found."

(2*) As many growers would sustain no loss at all, it is self-evident that the loss of the other less fortunate growers would average much more than 2 per cent.

(3*) Some loss, particularly from regional flooding, probably is unavoidable. The acreage lost this year in the Middle West from overflowing rivers, such as might occur one year in 25, could not logically be ascribed to a short-sighted practice on the part of the potato grower. Nevertheless, in the years when no such floods occur there is a persistent, one might call it "chronic," loss of potato acreage It will therefore be of considerable interest to see what the status is for 1943, a year when every effort will be made to harvest the crop for patriotic reasons; also a year when the grower is assured of a fairly good financial return for his efforts to help attain the potato production goal set for all potato farmers in 1943.

(4*) Due primarily to difference in time of "setting" tubers, the critical period in the life of the potato plant. A late July or early August drought in Aroostook County, Maine, affects the Cobbler more adversely than the Green Mountain.

Family Type Farm Plus Co-op Is Backbone of Agriculture

The Post-War Planning Commission of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in its program for agriculture recommends that the state laws be amended so as to provide an equitable basis for determining the tax status for farmer cooperatives. On this the Commission says:

"The backbone of Pennsylvania agriculture is the family type farm, not the factory type farm. Family type farms should be encouraged; they are homes, as well as production centers. Such units, however, are at a disadvantage in buying farm supplies and in marketing, unless they have the benefit of cooperative organizations. A group of cooperating farmers can purchase supplies and market products as efficiently as a large commercial farm or private business. In 1943, the incorporated farmer cooperatives of Pennsylvania, with 90,000 members and 170,000 patrons, did a business of $40,000,000 in cooperative buying of supplies, and **$63,000,000 in cooperative marketing of farm products.**"

Farm Safety Week

National Farm Safety Week will be observed again this year during the week of July 22 through July 28. Last year a similar observance served to focus nation-wide attention on the tremendous toll taken by accidents to farm people. For the first time many farmers came to realize that accidents — which cause them to lose 25 million man-days annually — represent one of the biggest obstacles to maximum food production and to agricultural prosperity and well being.

With fewer young men on the farm this year, with consequent further reduction of the supply of experienced workers, and with farm machinery a year older and still harder to replace, the farm accident situation may be more serious than ever before.

The theme of this year's campaign will be the basic three-point formula for the avoidance of accidents.

First—Learn to recognize hazards.

Second—Eliminate as many hazards as possible.

Third—Act so as not to be hurt by remaining hazards.

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Walter Ward, Warren
Darrel H. Lay, Warren
Robert Meabon, Warren
Raymond Steber, Warren
George Keller, Warren
Leslie Dodd, Warren
Merle Dodd, Warren
Stanley Flatt, Warren
John G. McReynolds, Venango
G. A. Rider, Columbia
Ted Beishline, Columbia
Andrew Abranaczinskas, Columbia
Harold Mantz, Lehigh
Almond H. Snyder, Northumberland
Wayne Brouse, Northumberland
Gordon K. Strait, Fulton
Clark C. Pollock, Indiana
Merritt W. Brown, Lehigh
C. H. Campbell, Centre
E. O. Mastin, Bucks
Mike Sarg, Elk
Hans Weihermiller, Mercer
E. C. Welliver, Columbia
Grant Williams, Northumberland
Joseph D. Young, Clearfield
Henry Ward, Warren
Lloyd Hedges, Warren
John Pierson, Warren
W. D. Finzer, Warren
John Moravek, Warren
Harry Wenzel, Warren
Frank Dodd, Warren
Theodore Dymond, Jefferson
Martin Harwood, New York
Richard Rarig, Columbia
Lyman G. Schaum,Berks
A. R. Hastings, Lehigh
Roy Burkhart, Lancaster

Raymond Bartholme, Lackawanna
Paul R. Smith, Potter
J. S. Zeigler, Union
Charles Camp, Warren
Paul Duntley, Warren
W. C. Leofsky, Warren
Homer Gibson, Warren
Joe Taydus, Warren
Richard Loper, Warren
James Glover, Erie
Charles Dillion, Columbia
Robert Reed, Luzerne
Herbert Zook, Lawrence
Leon Maurer, Schuylkill
William Tuttle, Potter
C. A. Lichtenwalner, Lehigh
E. A. Webster, Bucks
William Swartz, Jr., Schuylkill
George D. Mitchell, Erie
Stanley E. Brown, New York
Stafford Randall, Sullivan
Perry Troyer, Erie
Frank E. Richards, Lackawanna
Lloyd Keafer, Cambria
J. Raymond Davis & Son, Butler
Ernest Jacoby, Lackawanna
Albert Lansiedel, Lackawanna
Oscar Lauger, Warren
Stanley Lawrence, Warren
Harry Long, Warren
J. P. Fenstermacher, Warren
Clarence Rhinehart, Warren
O. E. Loper, Warren
James Lacey, Warren
Carl Riggs, Erie
Lowellita Darnall, West Virginia
A. H. Sallada Jr., Potter
Homer Lindell, Warren
R. V. Dancey, Michigan
John A. Bachman, Lehigh
A. H. Low & Son, Columbia
Wayne Dubble, Lebanon
Robert J. Aukeny, Somerset
J. Carl Miller, Columbia
Burt Walls, Clearfield

We Must Remember

"Let us remember that the cooperative standardizes quality, stabilizes prices, controls market-flow, bargains for us in order to obtain the best price, and above all, is a democratic institution.

"Therefore, as an American citizen, and a Future Farmer, I contend that in order to feed a war-crazed, starving world, and to preserve the strength of our Union, we must remember the little phrase, 'In Union There is Strength'." —16-year-old James Ahlgren, Ripon, California, in essay on "Benefits of Cooperatives."

BLUE LABEL

Try This:

Potato Beehives

This combination of mashed potato, eggs and sweet onion rings will make the family forget the difficulty in getting meat.

Four cups mashed potato mixture which is fairly dry, 1 egg, 1 sweet Spanish onion.

Add egg to mashed potato mixture and shape into mounds beehive fashion, and place on greased baking sheet. Slice the onion and separate the rings. Parboil them until they are soft. Place 6 or 8 rings over each potato mound, choosing slices to fit from a larger ring at the bottom to a correspondingly smaller one for the space toward the top. Brush with melted butter and bake in hot oven (400 degrees F.) about 15 minutes or until onions are lightly browned.

VISION
The GUIDE POST
PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

THE POTATO BLOSSOM

A more beautiful flower doesn't exist—Kings and Queens have used them in corsages and bouquets profusely.

JUNE — 1945

VOLUME XXII — NUMBER 6

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by

THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Address all communications to

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410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pa.

Branch Office
P. DANIEL FRANTZ
720 N. EIGHTH STREET
ALLENTOWN

Branch Office
J. M. HINDMAN
GARDNER BLDG.
UNION CITY

Volume XXII | **June, 1945** | **Number 6**

NEWS AND VIEWS

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

It has been said that the word NEWS came by taking the first letters in the words of the four cardinal points in the order North, East, West and South.

NEWS means something strange or newly happened; information about something before unknown.

VIEW means the act of seeing; intellectual perception or examination.

NEWS—Directors Lester Lohr and Jacob Mast are the proud fathers of baby girls.

VIEWS—All the other directors allowed on hearing this news that age creepeth upon us.

NEWS— The last seedling potato was planted at exactly 12:35 p.m. Friday, June 22, by Mac Hindman.

VIEWS—Everything considered there are a dozen or so *very promising* seedlings at Camp Potato.

Had we known everything there could have been three or four thousand bushels of several of them available for distribution. As it is, it may take longer to make them available but we will know intimately their possibilities and limitations.

Everything considered HU23ME is tops from a commercial viewpoint. It, for the fourth consecutive year, graded better than 90 per cent Blue Label.

For the 6th straight season II44 did not show a single ring rot tuber. It, along with all other seedling varieties, has been "exposed" to the ring rot organism. This same exposure has produced over 50 per cent infection in a half dozen commercial varieties and completely eliminated hundreds of seedlings. Director Fisher says this may be the one we have been looking for. It would be the answer to the plant breeder's prayer if it even started a race or family of potatoes immune to ring rot—*for this is the permanent answer.*

NEWS—All of the Directors were present at the Camp Wednesday and Thursday, June 20th and 21st.

VIEWS—It seems to me that the potato growers of Pennsylvania do not appreciate fully the time and effort necessary on the part of these men to assemble at various points in the state throughout the year. All but one of

them this time traveled nearly a hundred miles at least or a few of them nearly two hundred to get together in behalf of the best interests of every grower in Pennsylvania.

Not one of them had or has to do it. They were selected and elected by you to do it and they do not shirk this duty.

NEWS—Twenty other potato growers also were present *"without pay"* and to lend a hand to planting seedlings and constructing deer fence.

Jacob K. Mast sent up three strong and sturdy men who were also experts in digging post holes. We only found one hole badly out of line and it appears that Joe Glick took advantage of the shade of a large sugar tree under which to dig this one.

Ivan Miller brought over a gang proficient in cutting posts. They cut and trimmed over two hundred. They guaranteed these posts to outlast two post holes.

NEWS—Deer, as usual, are abundant at the Camp. The day after the first seedlings were planted the deer began to dig them up. It was not fertilizer alone they were after. They like potatoes with fertilizer.

VIEWS—The love of deer as wild life and the hunting of them for "recreation" lose some of their glamour after you have dug a couple hundred post holes and stretched up the fence and paid for it out of your own pocket. I would like to try it out on a Sportsmen's Association.

NEWS—Among other things the Directors discussed was the total cost of growing an acre of potatoes including putting them into consumer packages. The cost varied from $190 per acre up to $266. You figure this one up for your own farm.

VIEWS—Perhaps a man needs to be stubborn to be a potato grower. It isn't a job for the careful man who weighs all the odds. All farming is a gamble, and a man must have a stiff-necked faith in himself, his strength and his judgment to stand alone against all outdoors. Once he begins to waver and wonder and doubt, to feel puny and uncertain, to figure all the chances, *then he's done for.*

NEWS—Have you noticed that the wheat crop is maturing prematurely in many places? This is due to blade rust. I'll wager there will be a lot of expressions such as "the grain is not threshing out like I thought it would."

Frank Westrick says he remembers 60 seasons and for all but two of them when March "cuts up" like it did this year other disasters follow.

Southwestern Pennsylvania is not done planting potatoes yet.

Neither are a lot of other areas. It has been a hectic season and potato stands are anything but satisfactory over many areas.

Up to now it is a good "blight year" unless it turns dry and hot which easily can shorten the crop as much as blight. "An early wet season portends a poor potato crop, and conversely an early dry season portends a good potato crop." —Dr. D. D. Fritch.

VIEWS—Mankind will not starve, they tell us, at least in this country. He can be taught to shift his dietary habits as rapidly as robins—from worms to cherries to seeds—perhaps it would be a good thing for our people to experience. They tell us out of the hundred thousand or so odd plants which grow mankind has learned to eat a few dozen or so.

Have you ever noticed how rapidly certain weeds grow in potato patches in spite of our efforts to eradicate them? With half the energy expended could not mankind be taught to eat and find ways of utilizing them?

It was continuous wars in Europe that forced the people into eating potatoes and they have liked them ever since. They, right now, consume two bushels to our one per capita.

Right now we could and would consume a half more per capita if we had them. What other than potatoes is a substitute for meat?

Ponder on a steady diet without potatoes. String beans, peas and head lettuce are all right as a sort of solid but for something to "stick to the ribs" potatoes have no substitute.

NEWS—The early potato crop in Pennsylvania never looked better so early. There will be a lot of early patches dug by July 4. It looks like early digging for a lot of later patches.

VIEWS—This is the year when everything possible should be done to keep them growing. Nothing will do this like efficient spraying—Pennsylvania growers know how. This is the year to do the best you know.

NEWS—Those who put their should-

Continued on page seven

Building Enduring Agricultural Markets

Nine Proven Methods For Increasing Demand For Farm Produce

YOU as producers and we as distributors know that the day is fast approaching when instead of markets seeking food, food will be seeking markets. That fact poses an important problem for every individual whose livelihood depends upon the production and distribution of the food America eats.

Fortunately, agriculture is in a stronger position today to face the postwar changes than it was after the first World War. Farmers have been handling their wartime gains more wisely, profiting from the mistakes of the past. The "consolidated balance sheet" of America's six million farmers shows healthy assets—assets which have increased many billions of dollars since 1940.

To preserve these gains and build for the future, individual farmers are examining their investments in land, livestock, farm equipment and buildings. They are studying better ways of farm management, production practices and marketing—for they know that each of these will play an important role in shaping their future.

In the final accounting, each season's success or failure will be influenced in the future, as it has been in the past, by the producer's ability to find markets. Therefore agricultural leaders are giving much thought to the ways and means that will contribute to better sales of farm products.

As distributors who, for 85 years, have devoted our time and energies to serving producers and consumers by constantly improving the marketing of food, we share your profound interest in achieving the best possible postwar conditions for agriculture. Long experience—yours and ours—has shown that certain fundamental principles must be followed so that housewives throughout the nation will **want** to buy, and be **able** to buy the products of the nation's farms.

Actually, these principles constitute a set of objectives toward which progressive growers and distributors have been working. Among the most important of these are:

1. Emphasizing production of the varieties and quality consumers prefer.
2. Reducing waste and spoilage on the farm, in transportation, in the warehouses, in the stores and in the homes.
3. Improving grading, packaging and refrigeration methods.
4. Developing the chemurgic possibilities of the plants and foods which do not now go into human consumption but may have a farm value when utilized for animal feeds and industrial uses.
5. Improving transportation, warehouse and marketing facilities.
6. Adopting better display, advertising and merchandising practices.
7. Streamlining distribution, eliminating unnecessary in-between handling costs and routing produce as directly as possible from farm to housewife's kitchen.
8. Increasing and improving facilities to supply growers with marketing information.
9. Improving and increasing, where needed, canning and processing plants.

In cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Land Grant Colleges, the State Departments of Agriculture and the Agricultural Extension Service in the various states, A&P and other progressive distributors and growers are preparing now for the years ahead through projects designed to bring agriculture closer to these objectives. The teamwork and cooperation so clearly evidenced in these mutual projects is already paying dividends to producers and to consumers as well. As this principle of teamwork is even more widely applied, more and more producers and distributors will be better able to accomplish our mutual job of feeding America better today, and at the same time helping build a sound future for all agriculture.

ATLANTIC COMMISSION COMPANY, Inc.

Affiliate of

THE GREAT ATLANTIC & PACIFIC TEA COMPANY

Some of those who "put their shoulder to the wheel" at CAMP POTATO this month. Back row, left to right:— A. A. Hersherberger, Fred Munro, Willard Hersherberger, Ivan Miller, Geo. Ramm, Phil Antes, Clayton Troyer. Front row—Dr. E. L. Nixon and Ed Fisher.

News and Views—

Continued from page four

ers to the wheel at Camp Potato the past two weeks were:

Ivan Miller	Fred Munro
Clayton Troyer	George Ramm.
A. A. Hersher-berger	Louis Bailey
	Leland Nixon
Willard Hersher-berger	Joe Fisher
	Walter Sarginger
Jess Stoltzfus	Dick Sarginger
Joe Glick	Don Sterns and two sons
H. P. Geiger	
Philip Antes	

The Huntingdon-Juniata F.F.A. had made two efforts to be present to help with the planting but unfavorable weather prevented on both dates.

VIEWS—In answer to the question put to several of these men who are behind with their work or short handed —why would you take time to come to Camp Potato to work?

Their answer was, we believe, in the project. A co-operative that has no incentive, no motivating force but profit, is on the rocks already.

NEWS—There have been enough *success* stories in all aspects of agriculture in Pennsylvania to do some promoting if we had the promoters.

Look how many potato growers have taken completely abandoned land and converted it into profitable potato fields. A whole agricultural ocean of truth lay undiscovered before us in Pennsylvania.

If your hopes and dreams of the future are rooted in the soil and you desire to *work* in it for profit or for a comfortable living Pennsylvania offers your many attractive prospects.

Pennsylvania is a land of agricultural opportunities—a land of new beginnings, new crops, new approaches, new methods of land reclamation and soil conservation.

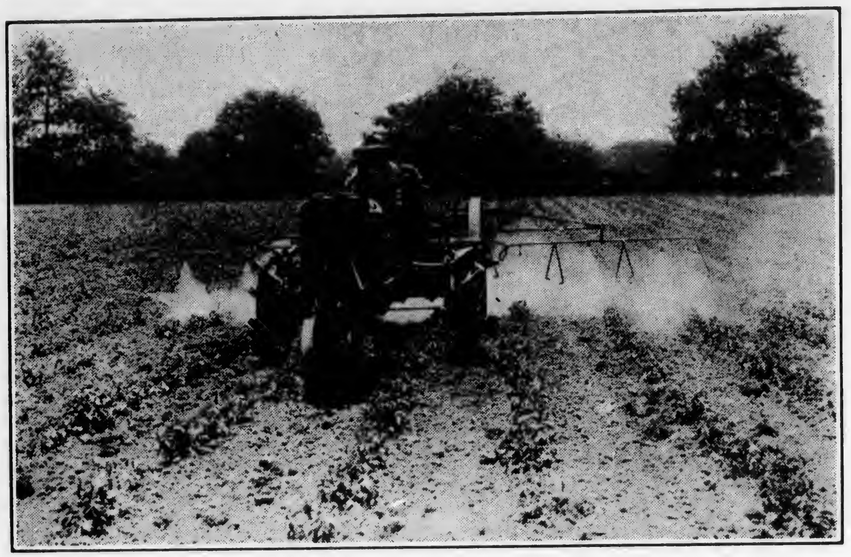
Nature in the beginning smiled upon Pennsylvania, endowing her with varied fertile soils, long growing seasons, plentiful rainfall, and varied climatic conditions.

Pennsylvania is only an overnight's truck trip to a third of the nation's population.

Establishing *equitable* markets for farm commodities to this population is as challenging, intriguing and pioneering as our forefathers crossing the Alleghenies.

There is a place in this work for a lot of returning veterans.

LATE BLIGHT



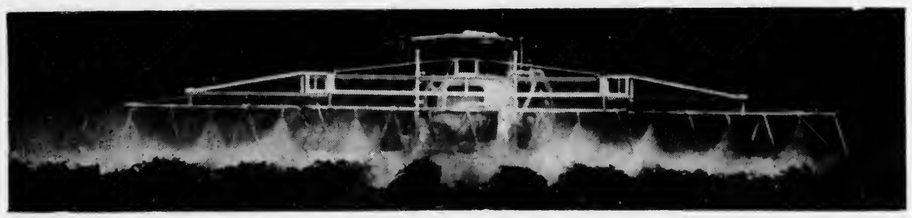
Keep those sprayers moving regularly

Late blight is already causing potato losses on Long Island. Weather has been favorable for the development of this disease in our area, and should similar conditions continue, late blight will likely appear in the near future. Weather conditions favorable to the development of late blight are: low night temperatures (down to 55 degrees F.), moist days below 85 degrees F., and high relative humidity such as occurs during rainy weather.

Last year the disease was prevalent in all the potato seed producing areas. Infection was late so that the harvested crop showed tuber rot. This means that some blighted tubers were planted on most farms.

Late blight losses can be prevented if 8-8-100 Bordeaux is applied at weekly intervals starting as soon as the rows can be followed. Enough spray should be applied to assure complete coverage.

No material has given as consistent blight control in Pennsylvania as Bordeaux Mixture.



Watch for the SPRAY STAR and HOLD IT — 300 pound pressure, No. 3 nozzle — Averaging 150 gallons 8-8-100 per acre.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE PRESENT POTATO OUTLOOK

As of June 20th

At a recent meeting of potato growers from each growing area in the State a poll was taken to ascertain the potato crop prospects of the state. Generally the outlook was well over average of previous years. Early planted fields were considered to be showing good stands, luxurious growth and field conditions excellent with normal plantings. This prospect pertained particularly to the southeastern section of this state.

The central section reports were not as promising due to delayed plantings. Seed generally was kept too long for good healthy, vigorous stands. The acreage planted and to be planted was normal but will require a longer than usual season. An early frost can easily reduce the tonnage. Early planted potatoes show exceptional promise, the stands are good and are showing good substantial growth. Northern central county plantings are still incomplete. It is still too early to estimate prospects.

Prospects for the Western section from the standpoint of acreage is good among large growers while small growers seem to be dropping out of the potato production picture. Planting is still going on while early planted fields are somewhat wet and weedy.

Pennsylvania's outlook generally for a good crop at this date is very good—luxurious growth together with excessive moisture reported in many sections might easily develop a blight epidemic unless spray schedules are rigidly adhered to and dry weather conditions prevail.

As of June 10 the total U.S. commercial early potato crop is estimated at 64,255,000 bushels compared with 52,683,000 in 1944 and the 10-year average of 48,067,000. Early potato statistics show:

	ACRES			PRODUCTION, 1000 Bu.		
	10-Yr. Avg.	1944	1945	10-Yr. Avg.	1944	1945
Virginia	47,020	37,700	35,300	6,881	3,820	4,751
Eastern Shore	9,430	7,800	7,300	1,463	694	1,132
Maryland	6,080	5,400	5,700	864	594	712
New Jersey	47,180	61,000	61,000	8,496	7,930	11,850
Total (Summer States)	128,960	132,500	130,900	20,502	15,996	22,284
Total (All Early States)	322,960	377,700	356,300	48,067	52,683	64,255

BLUE LABEL

Alarmed Over Food Outlook

Farmers are becoming alarmed over the food outlook as a result of the recent unfavorable growing weather.

Organizations at a meeting on May 24, appealed to the War Food Administration in Washington urging an early investigation of crop losses in the state and an adjustment of prices under the disaster clause of OPA. Under this clause the **OPA is required to make ceiling price adjustments for crop losses resulting from drought, hurricane, flood,** etc.

Reports furnished by the boards indicate that the **fruit** and **potato** crops had been seriously reduced by frost and cold weather. The shortage of farm machinery was also reported to be especially serious.

Co-operatives vs. Dictatorship

Jerry Voorhis,
Congressman from California

"I believe the Cooperative Movement is democracy in practice, the antithesis of dictatorship, monopoly power, and the rule of force. The more cooperators there are, the broader the base of ownership, the closer we come to identifying the economic initiative and activities of the people with the general welfare of the whole nation. Cooperation is by definition the opposite of conflict, the opposite of war. The Cooperative Movement is, therefore, the stuff out of which peace must be built."

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

ASSOCIATION LIFE MEMBERS

At a recent meeting of the directors of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, it was decided to issue upon request **Life Memberships** to this Association. Potato growers and those interested in the progress and prosperity of the Potato Industry will be entitled to this membership upon application. The life membership fee has been established at $10. Those desiring to affiliate themselves should make immediate application and forward their checks as soon as possible. Suitable certificates will be issued within a reasonable time.

The following have been accepted into the Life Membership Club:

J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
William W. Hayes, Jersey Shore
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell
McPherson Bros., Bridgeton

Growers—now is your opportunity. Get a **Life Membership** in the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association, Inc., this month.

—Notice - Notice—

The paper bag situation, as well as all types of containers, is more difficult than ever before. Shortages were avoided last marketing season because of **close** co-operation between growers, Association managers and bag manufacturers. This same co-operation will be absolutely necessary again this season if all demands are to be met.

Advance orders for paper bags to market the 1945 potato crop are now being received. Growers are urged to estimate their early season needs **well in advance** and send their orders with shipping dates to this office, Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association, Inc., 410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pa., as soon as possible.

Local Inspectors' numbers will be printed upon the heel of 15-pound Blue Label bags in lots of 25,000 or more if suppliers are given approximately 60 days' advance notice.

May we suggest that every grower check his acreage, his crop prospect and his marketing plan as soon as possible—determine his earliest need and write or wire the above office.

C. F. H. WUESTHOFF, *Secretary*

—BLUE LABEL—

Attention !

BLUE LABEL INSPECTORS AND GRADE SUPERVISORS

Notices have been sent to all holders of official grade supervisors' and inspectors' stamps numbering from 1 to 500 inclusive, requesting that these stamps be returned to this office, 410 Campbell Street, Williamsport, Pa., at once, for re-registering and reconditioning without charge. By order of the Association board of directors all old stamps numbering 1 to 500 are declared VOID and cannot be used on the Association's trade-marked packages during the 1945-46 season.

Send your Inspector's Stamp in today. We suggest that you tear off the rubber stamp *number*, insert it in an envelope properly addressed and mail to us at once so that you will have your new stamp in good time before *our* and *your* busy sales season begins again in earnest.—C. F. H. WUESTHOFF, *Secretary*.

Co-ops Increase Buying Power, Lower Costs

Farmer co-operatives have increased the buying power of over 25,000,000 people who live on more than five and a half million farms in the nation. They have also increased the buying power of many millions of consumers not only through lower costs, but improved quality and increased efficiency in the processing and marketing of farm products.

The co-operative system is a double barrelled affair. The marketing co-op gets a better price for its member and the purchasing co-op saves him money on his purchases. Today there are approximately 10,300 farmer cooperatives financed and completely owned and operated by their farmer members.

These cooperatives cover the entire range of farming—milk and milk products, fruits, vegetables, nuts, tobacco, cotton, grains and so on. Purchasing co-ops are expanding every day to cover almost the entire field of purchasing.

In 1944 these 10,330 American farmer co-ops did a business of $5,160,000,000. Marketing co-ops did $4,430,000,000. More than half of the nearly 5,000,000 members of these American farm co-ops are now members through their respective organizations, of the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives.

These farmer co-operatives are bringing more and more benefits to the American farm home. They are raising the standard of living of the farm family and most important of all, they are contributing to the national welfare by making it possible to preserve the family owned and family operated farm.

—BLUE LABEL—

! Important !

The July Guide Post, the Marketing Issue, will announce some history making information effective July 1st, relative to the assignment and reassignment of duties and activities of offices and officers of your association. Plans for the future are most promising.—C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary.

Winner of State F. F. A. Public Speaking Contest

DUSHORE, Penna., June 22—Frank Brunosky of Lopez, Pa., seventeen-year-old senior of Dushore High, won first place in the State F.F.A. Public Speaking Contest held at State College June 11, 1945.

Frank Brunosky

In March of this year Frank won the right, at Tunkhannock, to represent the Sul-Wyco area in the state contest, and now he will represent the state of Pennsylvania in the Eastern Regional Contest to be held at New Brunswick, N. J., in September.

Having chosen the topic "Agriculture and America's Future," Frank compiled his own address and ably presented it before three judges at State College to win over ten other contestants entered from all over the state.

With the keynote "a sound economic system based on a fair standard of living and an increased opportunity for America's common family is the primary objective of the American people," Dushore's Future Farmer representative elaborated on the "barriers to success" in and the "opportunities offered by agriculture," stating that a sound agricultural system is the basis of a sound democratic government. He stated that surpluses, the tenancy situation and soil erosion are the three major problems facing agriculture and stressed their seriousness. Their solution, the seventeen-year-old orator pointed out, "is totally dependent on us" . . . "within us lies the power to make our government a great government of a great nation by giving it the firm support of a sound agriculture." He very appropriately brought his oration to a climax with the following avowal of resolution and faith: "My friends, as I survey the broadened frontier before us, as I look out upon the vast fields where work is yet to be done, I can only feel a firm resolution that we can and will make this country of ours a better place in which to live; and in my own heart I am inspired by an ever-increasing faith in America—a faith which the Future Farmer Creed well expresses: *'I believe in the future of farming, in the promise of better days through better ways and that rural America can and will hold true to the best traditions in our national life'."*

The boys were judged on manuscript, voice, general appearance, stage presence and defense. Runner-up was Gene Love of West Fallonfield Twp. High, Cochranville, finalist in the Chester-Delaware area; Adam Henritzy, Emmaus High, Montgomery-Bucks-Lehigh entry, was third place winner.

Frank Brunosky came to Dushore this past year for his fourth year high and became an ardent Future Farmer of America member under the guidance of Mr. Donald T. Green, Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture. Should Frank win the regional contest in New Jersey this fall, he will be slated for the national contest in Kansas City where the winner will speak over a nation-wide radio hook-up.

A TEN-POINT PROGRAM FOR COOPERATIVES

The challenge confronting farmer co-operatives was never greater than today nor the need greater than it will doubtless be in the postwar period. If America is to achieve a sound rural economy based on maximum farmer self-help, farmers must strive to strengthen their co-operative organizations from the grassroots to the top.

1. Farmer co-operatives must work for the general welfare—must have a positive program.

2. Farmer co-operatives must continue to be pace setters in efficiency, fair pricing, promoting high standards, proper grading, and honest weights.

3. Farmer co-operatives must assume civic responsibility at least comparable to that assumed by other business organizations.

4. Co-operatives must serve the farmer owners and not management.

5. Farmer co-operatives must act within the spirit as well as the letter of the law.

6. Farmer co-operatives must maintain democratic processes in practice as well as in theory.

7. Farmer co-operatives must work out harmonious relations with business, labor and other kinds of co-operatives.

8. Farmer co-operatives must promote further research dealing with methods and principles.

9. Farmer co-operatives must do a more effective job of training managers.

10. Farmer co-operatives must everlastingly teach the sound principles of co-operation.—JOHN H. DAVIS, *Executive Secretary, National Council of Farmer Co-operatives.*

THE 1945 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN

Will Be Chosen and Crowned at Our Summer Field Day

Sylvia Hoober, Lancaster County — PENNSYLVANIA 1944 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN at the Joint Marketing Conference, Harrisburg

Plans for the selection and coronation of Pennsylvania's 1945 Potato Blossom Queen to represent our $35,000,000 Potato Industry have been decided upon and are hereby officially announced. Ten young ladies, potato growers' daughters or wives between the ages of 16 and 21 years, are being urged to compete for this distinguished honor. These young women are to represent Erie, Lehigh, Somerset, Cambria, Warren, Chester, Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe and Luzerne counties and are to constitute the **"Court of Honor"** presided over by Miss Sylvia Hoober, Pennsylvania's 1944 Potato Blossom Queen, of Lancaster County. Potter, Columbia and Lancaster counties are to be eliminated this year since these counties have contributed a queen in the persons of Aola Howard of Potter, Caroline McHenry of Columbia, and Sylvia Hoober of Lancaster, within the past three years.

The above counties have been singled out for this particular occasion due to the fact that these counties ranked highest from the standpoint of the sale and movement of **Blue Label** potatoes.

Selection and coronation proceedings under the direction of a capable committee will include a most impressive and appropriate ceremony giving due honor and recognition to the counties which have co-operated so splendidly in the movement of Pennsylvania's *Blue Label* potatoes.

Five judges representing co-operative, distributive, educational, civic and state organizations will be selected to choose from the **"Court of Honor,"** the young lady most desirable from the standpoint of **personality, voice, comeliness, poise** and **ability** to photograph well.

The annual selection and coronation of a Potato Blossom Queen has become an event looked forward to by hundreds of Pennsylvania Potato Growers and persons interested in the development of a better agriculture. Its contribution to the Potato Industry in the state is

Continued on page twenty-one

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The 1945 Potato Blossom Queen—

Continued from page nineteen

difficult to evaluate, yet hundreds agree that this event has done more to popularize, publicize and uplift this industry than any one thing. News space, radio time and public appearances with our Blossom Queen as the central theme lead us to believe that it is an occasion well worth the time and effort spent. News reporters, commentators and cooperative and distribution leaders admit that the industry profits no end.

Counties listed above are taking this project seriously and are busily engaged, even now, in selecting their 1945 **hope.** It is not only an honor to them but a distinct opportunity to do their bit toward placing the Potato Industry before the public in a most pleasing, effective and graphic way. More will be printed in the next issue of the GUIDE POST concerning the progress of county selections.

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"CAMP POTATO" FIELD DAY

Potato Growers' Field Day at Camp Potato, Potter County, has been tentatively set for August 15th. Make your plans to attend this event which will combine business and pleasure with emphasis upon the former for we are still in the throes of a serious war and just as serious a food crisis. Potato production and distribution will occupy a greater portion of Field Day, while the selection and crowning of the 1945 Blossom Queen together with an extensive dramatization of potato activities will be perhaps secondary.

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Contoured Acres Grow More

Contour cultivation is basic conservation farming, essential to increased production for war today and the preservation of America's soil for the farmers of tomorrow, says the War Food Administration.

Contouring cuts down erosion by preventing water from carrying off the soil. It increases acre-yields of crops, maintains their quality by holding the fertile topsoil in place, and increases the moisture content of the land. Combined with other practices, it adds to their effectiveness.

Contour farming means plowing, harrowing, planting, cultivating, and harvesting on the level rather than up and down the slope—around the hill rather than over it. The furrowed ridges slow down the movement of water off the field, allowing more moisture to soak into the ground, and stopping the soil from being washed down to lower levels. When contouring cuts the speed of the water run-off in half, for example, its capacity for carrying soil drops about 75 percent, according to WFA reports. In controlled tests covering a 7-year period, land cultivated up and down hill lost almost two and a half times as much soil per acre as land farmed on the contour.

Contouring has many variations such as contoured intertilled crops, contour strip-cropping, contour seeding of small grain crops, and contouring for water conservation. But WFA points out that the basic principle is the same—working across the slope instead of paralleling it. Assistance in carrying out these and other contour practices is available to farmers under the conservation program administered by the Agricultural Adjustment Agency.

Type of soil and steepness of slope both influence the retaining capacity of contour furrows, says WFA. Contouring may be all that is required to control erosion on land with open, porous soil, easy slopes, or where rainfall is gentle. Under less advantageous conditions, additional practices such as terracing, cover crops, and sod waterways may be required to achieve the best results.

Conservation of moisture, soil, and plant nutrients through contouring has had a notable effect on acre-yield of crops, says WFA. In specific areas startling increases were reported, such as 23 bushels more corn an acre in Iowa, an increase of 6.2 bushels per acre of soybeans in Illinois, 44 more bushels of potatoes an acre in New York, an increase of 4 bushels of wheat per acre in the Great Plains, and 29 pounds more cotton per contoured acre in Texas.

Most of the farmers who have been using the contour method of handling their crops report that it calls for less fuel, less power, and less work than going up and down the slope. Experience has shown that on an 8-percent slope a farmer can plow 10 percent more land on the contour in a given period, and that he will use 10 percent less tractor fuel acre for acre. In Illinois it was reported that costs had been reduced as much as 95 cents an acre for man labor, 25 cents an acre for horse and machinery expense, and 72 cents an acre for total farm expenses, compared with costs on uncontoured farms.

Legume Seed Scarce

Payment of $3.50 an acre for harvesting clover and alfalfa seed this summer is being offered farmers in New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey by the Agricultural Adjustment Agency. Concerted Nation-wide effort to encourage legume seed production to meet national and world needs is made possible by a special appropriation of Congress.

Meeting war's enormous demands for food and fiber has placed a terrific strain on the land. As a result, special soil-building efforts must be made in the farm areas of the United States, as well as throughout the war-torn countries of Europe, to restore and maintain soil fertility. Legume seed is especially needed in this effort.

Estimates indicate that in European liberated countries alone at least 20 million pounds of red clover seed will be needed, as well as 5 million pounds of alfalfa seed and 3 million pounds of alsike seed.

All farmers who, in 1945, can possibly harvest any of the legume seeds required to supply their own or their neighbor's needs, will be helping to meet this increased demand, says A. W. Manchester, Northeast AAA Director. Seed growers can get details of the seed program from their county AAA office.

"New" Secretary of Agriculture Likely "Food Czar"

Clinton P. Anderson, Representative in Congress from New Mexico, will succeed Claude R. Wickard as Secretary of Agriculture on July 1.

The new secretary knows about big scale farming in the west because he has an 800-acre irrigated farm near Albuquerque with a herd of 135 milk cows and other dairy animals. He also owns a 640-acre farm near Mitchell, South Dakota. His New Mexico ranch is called the Lazy V Cross. In addition to cows he has 300 head of Rambouillet sheep, 450 acres in alfalfa. His interest in food production brought him the chairmanship of a special House food investigating committee. In this position Mr. Anderson has been very critical of the red tape and unnecessary confusion that has resulted in food shortages. It is probably this interest in the food situation that was instrumental in bringing him the appointment as Secretary of Agriculture. He has long been a close friend of President Truman.

Mr. Anderson came to Congress four years ago. His career prior to that time included: founder and president of the Mountain States Mutual Casualty Company; president of Rotary International (1932-33); State Treasurer of New Mexico (1933-34); administrator of State Relief and field representative of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration (1935-36); chairman and executive director, Unemployment Compensation Commission of New Mexico (1936-38); managing director, Coronado Exposition Commission (1939-40). During his second term in Congress, he was elected to the important Ways and Means Committee.

Mr. Anderson is married and has two children, a boy, Sherburne, 20, who is a corporal in the Army, and a girl, Nancy, 15, who attends Mt. Vernon Seminary in Washington.

Secretary John H. Davis and other representatives of the National Council of Farmer Co-operatives met with the prospective Secretary on May 30 and were impressed with his understanding of the food situation and his interest in and knowledge of farmer co-operatives. Mr. Anderson expressed a desire to work with co-operative representatives in bringing a healthy agricultural economy after the war.

The New Soil Conservation Law

Early Action Expected

Early action to put into operation Pennsylvania's new soil conservation law has been assured by Miles Horst, state secretary of agriculture and chairman of the newly appointed State Soil Conservation Commission.

As provided by the act, the Commission membership, in addition to Secretary Horst, includes James A. Kell, secretary of forests and waters; Dr. S. W. Fletcher, dean of the School of Agriculture at The Pennsylvania State College, and the following farmers appointed by the governor from six nominees submitted by the State Council of Farm Organizations.

Frank W. Gorham, Wysox, Bradford County, member of the executive committee of the State Council of Farm Organizations; H. E. Roper, Kirkwood, Lancaster County, president of the State Soil Conservation Association; and E. M. Shaulis, Holsopple, Somerset County, president of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Federation.

The new act provides for the voluntary establishment of county soil conservation districts where boards of county commissioners pass a resolution to that effect as a result of desire expressed by farm land owners of the county. Such districts will operate under a county soil conservation board of five, including one member of the board of county commissioners. The other four are chosen by the county commissioners from at least eight farmers nominated by delegates appointed for the purpose by agricultural organizations of the county. This county board elects its own chairman.

Directed toward conservation of soil and soil resources through control and prevention of soil erosion, the new act has no compulsory features whatever. It repeals the act of 1937 which farmers generally have misunderstood, many declaring it too cumbersome and not workable. However, Secretary Horst pointed out that all existing soil conservation districts will continue under the old law until reorganization can be completed under the Act of 1945. Present districts are located in parts of York, Lancaster, Franklin, Northumberland, and Indiana counties, and all of Clarion County.

Secretary Horst said the county commissioners and farm organizations will be supplied with information on the new act in the near future.

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of The Guide Post

—BLUE LABEL—

Raymond A. Kennedy, Tioga
C. A. McFeaters, Dauphin
David H. Slinger, Wisconsin
John W. Oliver, Ohio
J. Walter Learn, Sullivan
Palmer Chitester, Potter
A. H. Shaub, York
Raymond Westrick, Cambria
A. G. Sperry, Ohio
Walter E. Barnhart, York
Harvey W. Muth, Lehigh
O. D. Coon, Lackawanna
W. E. Eshelman, Schuylkill
Lloyd R. Bose, York
J. M. Stehr, Schuylkill
Albert Zeger, Franklin
H. O. Elliot, Butler
Alex Krupa, Lehigh
Walter C. Herman, Northampton
Wilford R. Mills, Centre
Ross H. Lowe, York
James W. Wetzel, Schuylkill
Albert F. Smith, Carbon
Harry H. Peters, Columbia
Arthur S. Young, Lancaster
Vine L. English, Tioga
Abner Troyer, Ohio
Chas. A. Holtz, Cambria
Ivan Faylor & Sons, Ohio
Richard Haskins, Potter
Ralph H. Hain, York
Lloyd R. Baker, Potter
Clark Zimmerman, Berks
Archie E. S. Grammes, Lehigh
Elmer K. Landis, Lancaster
Henry Wedde, Schuylkill
Chas. M. Allison, Allegheny
John H. Richter, Dauphin
Herden D. Moyer, Lehigh
H. E. Rupp, Ohio
Oscar Swaney, Crawford
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Joseph Hartman, York
Park Speicher, Somerset
Victor C. Geiger, Lehigh
Harry A. Stine, Columbia
Steward M. Shupp, Monroe
Lewis Dieffenbach, Sullivan
Marvin S. Kistler, Lehigh
Wm. J. D. Heintzelman, Lehigh
Paul R. Muse, Lehigh
Albert S. Herman, Northampton
Chas. B. Patton, Lawrence
Neil S. Harrison, Columbia
William Naugle, Luzerne
William H. Shupp, Monroe
Chas. E. Scott, Lycoming
John Mantz, Lycoming
L. M. Horner, Somerset
Earl Sappington, Texas
Howard M. Schultz, Berks
Laurence R. Ritter, Chester
Frank Beishline, Columbia
George Mann, Northampton
Mark Flory, Northampton
Charles S. Smith, Northampton
Heber Trach, Northampton
Claud Silfies, Northampton
E. J. Hughes, Cambria
Fred P. Fisher, Venango
Andrew Wood, Allegheny
Switzgabel Bros., Monroe
Grant E. Diehl, Carbon
F. O. Schadel, Schuylkill
George H. Honaberger, Columbia
Felix Masser, Northumberland
Peter Lieb, Cambria
John Cizek, Potter
John P. Hoover, Cambria
I. L. Brown & Son, Clarion
Jacob J. Werner, York
Earl Ott, Northampton
Dr. E. J. Balliet, Northampton
Frank Flick, Northampton
George Dewalt, Northampton
Jacob L. Ernest, Northampton
John P. Remaley, Lehigh
George Ramm, Clinton
H. F. Diehl, Schuylkill
J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Lester Lohr, Somerset
F. L. Dodd, Warren
Howard G. Allen, York
Fred Munro, Clinton
Burton Thomas, Somerset
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
McPherson Brothers, York
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia

VISION

The GUIDE POST

PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

Sky-View—CAMP POTATO

Potter County

JULY — 1945

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THE GUIDE POST

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ALLENTOWN, PA.

Volume XXII | **July, 1945** | **Number 7**

NEWS AND VIEWS

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor,
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

A trip over the Eastern part of the State in mid July reveals that the potato crop is a week or two ahead of schedule, and the best **prospects** for a crop from the standpoint of vigor, growth and care in twenty years.

Views

The crop is not made yet and "there is many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip." Since this trip there have been several enormous rains—**blight** has been found in a dozen counties. It is starting out in epidemic proportions. Nothing will check it now in unsprayed or poorly sprayed fields but dry weather.

It should be remembered that sixty per cent of Pennsylvania's potato acreage is still not sprayed.

News

A still more recent trip over the entire western two-thirds of the state reveals that the stand is below normal. Many large areas have been replanted and many others would be more profitable if they were.

Just one day's difference in planting—all other conditions the same—made the difference between a stand and no stand.

Only the Butler County area was bordering on the "too dry" side. Potter is wet, Erie just right. Somerset just right following too much wet. Late blight found in all of these areas and Clarion, Centre and Clinton in addition.

Views

Potato growers must be the world's greatest gamblers. Joe Fisher says it costs $100.00 just to plant an acre—then they don't come up and if they do they may blight if it is wet. If you spray your head off and control blight then they may have hollow heart. Then, too, remember when we sold them—two pecks for 34c.

News

There are a lot of mighty fine potato fields all through the western two-thirds of the state, also. In spite of the weather, which we can't help, there will be a lot of mighty fine crops dug—for isn't it a fact that Pennsylvania has over two thousand official 400 bushel growers? All of them have not lost their cunning.

News

Men whom I interviewed or traveled with and received a lot of inspiration from so far in July (up to the 20th) are, J. K. Mast and Jess Stoltfus spraying in the mud—but spraying; Joseph Trainer and Steve Westrick; B. A. Rockwell, Harrison Nolt; Ed. Fisher, Walter and Dick Sarginger and Don Stearn. A. C. Ramseyer, Ivan Miller, Frank Dodd, P. D. Frantz, Max Hindman W. C. Westcott, Lester Lohr, Frank Fisher, Dwight Griffith, Joe Fisher, Rev. Kibach, Rev. John Howes, Dick Campbell, Fred W. Johnson, Carter Schaub; the Rotary Club of Lock Haven, then finally conferred with C. F. H. Wuesthoff our associations secretary at State College to assist in "setting up" this issue of the Guide Post.

Views

Some of these men marveled at the scenic beauty of Pennsylvania and the enormous expanse of unimproved agricultural land—true acres of diamonds.

The proposition of another all Pennsylvania Bus Tour in chartered Greyhounds following the war was up for discussion—all in the spirit that Pennsylvania is a land of new beginnings where hopes and dreams of the future are rooted in the soil—the only permanent corner stone to our continued industrial "empire." This cannot be envisioned by old men in their dotage or those retired on social security. It requires guts and hard work, and no more of a gambling chance than the potato grower experiences annually.

Too many "leaders" in Pennsylvania see the ghost towns which grew rich two generations ago through the uncouth robbery of forests, mines and soil exploitations. With these almost exhausted the "leaders" ponder whether to let them rest in leafy quiet to become hunting and fishing grounds—the path of least resistance—or living cities which requires vision, courage and hard work.

It is easier to say "Go west or go south young man."

There is but one tonic for the sick industrial areas and that is to coordinate business and agriculture into a working team.

"For the nation that forgets me (Agriculture) in that hour her doom is sealed. By a judgment as from heaven that can never be repealed."

A Potato Picking Contest

Mahlon King—An Unchallenged

Potato picking has become a necessary and most important task of all potato growers. The efficiency with which this job is done depends upon individuals interested in doing some of the "work of the world" well. There are ways to do this work and there are ways not to do it. Contests such as a Potato Picking Contest bring out new ways and new ideas as well as outstanding workers. Prizes and trophies are awarded to recognize this necessary, worthwhile phase of the Industry.

This year's event will be run in two divisions—one for young people under fourteen years of age and again one for adults, male and female.

Bring your work clothes along and participate. It's a splendid opportunity to demonstrate your speed and skill in doing one of our really necessary jobs of potato harvesting. Let's Go!

"Why the black crepe on the door? Is someone dead?"

"No, that's my roommate's towel."

Are Co-operatives a Threat to Private Enterprise?

Address delivered by A. J. Roth, Manager, Commerce and Finance Division, Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, at Annual Conference of Pennsylvania Commercial Secretaries' Association, Uniontown, Pa., June 15, 1945

Editor's Note: We have known Mr. Roth almost a score of years. He has worked tirelessly in bringing farmers and their city cousins closer together.

Private enterprise in the usually accepted sense is understood to be a business conducted in a free competitive economy without undue interference or regulation by government. The best definition of a co-operative which has come to my attention is that given in Webster's unabridged dictionery: "of, pertaining to, or designating a business enterprise or society whose object is to enable its participants to buy or sell to a better advantage by eliminating middle men's profits." From this definition it strikes me that the co-operative is free enterprise.

For years we have come to recognize as legitimate types of business operation a wide variety of activities conducted on a purely co-operative basis. We have patronized these businesses; we have encouraged their expansion. I refer particularly to savings and loan associations, mutual savings banks, mutual insurance companies, hospital service associations, and credit unions, as well as mutual drug chains and hardware chains supplied by a retailer-owned wholesale establishment. These are also co-operatives and operate on a basis under which the customers receive a patronage dividend on their year's business.

Why there should be a sudden and bitter attack upon co-operatives is a mystery to me, except that the inroads into the sacred precincts of retail distribution must be their unpardonable offense.

Much has been made of the governmental agencies set up to lend money to co-operatives at favorable rates of interest. I have yet to hear of any complaint regarding the agencies which have been set up to lend money to other business establishments, including the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, the Smaller War Plants Corporation, and the Federal Home Loan Bank. It would seem to me that if it is wrong for a government agency to finance co-operatives at a rate of interest below the commercial rate, it is equally wrong for the other agencies who confine their lending activities to manufacturing and financial institutions. My own opinion, so that there may be no misunderstanding on that point, is that the government ought to get out of the lending business; but that attitude seems to meet with no response from any of the beneficiaries of these government agencies.

Let's look at the tax angle. In Pennsylvania the co-operative enjoys no tax exemption that is not enjoyed by any unincorporated business. Are the people who advocate taxing the co-operatives contemplating also levying a profits tax on the individual owner-operated or partnership small business?

Co-operatives pay local property taxes; they pay excise taxes; they pay transportation taxes on the movement of goods or persons, and taxes on communication services; they pay social security and unemployment insurance taxes; they pay stamp taxes, use taxes, import taxes, and miscellaneous taxes on various commodities wherever other businesses pay them.

The co-operatives insist that their patronage refunds are not profits—they are merely overpayments by their customers which are returned to them on a basis proportionate to their purchases. As the manager of one of them explains it, "If I send a man to buy a sack of feed and give him $2.00 and when he returns with it he hands me 50c in change, that certainly is not a profit," and that is exactly what a co-operative does on a large scale in acting as the agent of the patron.

It has always seemed to me that the emphasis on the tax inequality is in the wrong place. Business organizations generally have always been against punitive taxation and it would seem that a more sensible proposal from the business standpoint would be to seek the repeal of the federal tax on corporation profits which are distribut-

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

ed to the stock holders in dividends. In other words, consider dividend payments by a corporation as a necessary business expense and allow their deduction before payment of taxes. I have never been able to understand why this proposal, which has been advocated nationally by a number of people, has never received the support which has been accorded to the proposal to tax earnings of co-operatives.

The history of co-operatives seems to indicate that they came into being to serve scattered groups where commercial enterprises were either unwilling or unable to render the service required. No means has yet been found to market the products of a large number of small producers as efficiently as the co-operative does. It seems only natural that when the marketing co-operative succeeded that its members would throw it into reverse and work the cooperative system both ways.

Just how much advantage does the consumer co-operative have over a commercial establishment? In Pittsburgh there are two housing projects with the same general conditions prevailing; one served by a co-operative store and the other by a regular commercial establishment. Both pay to the housing authority the same rental for the space occupied plus a percentage on the gross sales. At the Glen Hazel housing project there are one thousand families served by a co-operative store owned by the tenants of the project. During the month of March sales in the co-operative store amounted to $9,300 —approximately $2.30 weekly per family. At the Broadhead Manor housing project, with 241 families, the food store operated by the Pittsburgh Mercantile Company made sales of $15,000 during the month of March, or $14.00 per week per family. These two projects are entirely comparable. The income level of the tenants, workers in war industries, is the same, and each project is located at approximately the same distance from a retail shopping center. In the Glen Hazel project the tenants are traveling a mile to patronize the retail food stores in the Hazelwood district.

The co-operative type of business is merely an effort on the part of certain people to do things for themselves rather than to employ established commercial enterprises to serve them. This applies not only to farmer co-operatives but to all types, and it seems to me to be just as logical as for a man to drive his own automobile rather than hire a taxicab.

As far as I have been able to ascertain no individual or group of individuals has any vested right in any business, whether it be manufacturing, distribution, or service. The advent of the chain store was heralded by exactly the same type of opposition now directed at the co-operative. It was freely predicted that the chain store meant the end of the individual merchants and there were shouts from all directions to the effect that "there ought to be a law."

At the 1943 meeting of Nacos in Pittsburgh, one of the speakers stressed the fact that the decline in farm income over a long period of years had been due to the transfer of manufacturing and processing activities from the farms to the cities. Farming has been described as the only industry which must sell all of its products at wholesale and buy everything it needs at retail. The farm co-operative has been the result of efforts on the part of the farmer to overcome both of these conditions.

Co-operatives have recently been referred to as a foreign type of operation. I am not so sure that the facts justify that statement. Every rural community in America has known co-operation in the form of barn raising, threshing crews, harvesting crews, food preserving, and other tasks which the individual was unable to handle himself. Did anyone say that these were foreign types of farm operations?

The entire governmental and social structure of America is a co-operative organization. We provide funds and elect officials to provide for us police and fire protection, education, highways, sewage disposal, water supply, and a number of other facilities and services which we could not provide individually.

Some of us who have overpaid our income taxes on the salary-withholding plan have even been fortunate enough to secure a patronage refund and I, for one, see no menace to the country in the fact that such refund is not taxable on next year's income.

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States expresses its current position on co-operatives as follows:

"Our private financial and economic system should be free to develop its full strength. Every form of legitimate private enterprise should be relieved from the repression of government competition. No form of lawful enterprise should be favored by government over any other form and each, whether co-operative or individual, whether in single units or in multiple units, should stand on its own merits with protection from unfair competition and free from tax exemptions and any other public subsidies. Every existing policy and every proposed measure should be thoroughly scrutinized with reference to its bearing upon the economic structure of the country.

"The Chamber has a long record of advocating legislation and enforcement of enactments to protect all business enterprise against unfair competition in all of its forms, in order that every enterprise may have its opportunity to succeed in accordance with the ability of its management and the value of the products and services it offers.

"In its legitimate forms and methods, retail merchandising should be free from discriminatory laws—local, state and federal."

This seems to me to be a perfectly fair position. The only thing wrong with it is that it is not explicit enough. There is a wide difference of opinion between the advocates of co-operatives and others in regard to the so-called tax exemption. I see no mention, however, of any opposition to punitive taxation, but I am sure that the United States Chamber, would be the last to advocate it. The exemption of co-operative earnings, or savings, from tax, is no greater than the advantage which our manufacturing enterprises secure from our tariff laws and which our transportation companies and utilities enjoy through the fixing of rates and the elimination of competition. Even our retailers claim that they benefit from the enactment of fair trade laws and similar legislative measures.

Chambers of Commerce are committed to the support of every form of legitimate business activity. Co-operatives are a legitimate activity and any attempt by recognized business to fight them would merely stimulate their growth and withdraw from commercial establishments a large part of the retail business which they now secure from farm customers.

The co-operative cannot be legislated out of business. If laws were enacted to tax co-operatives there would be no way to prevent them from reducing their prices by an amount equal to their average patronage dividend, and the net result would be a cut price competition which would be infinitely harder for the merchant to meet, and it is entirely likely that if the co-operatives were forced into that type of competition they would attract a large segment of the buying public which they do not serve at present.

The future of commercial manufacturing and distribution and co-operative manufacturing and distribution is beyond the power of any of us. All business is built and is entirely dependent upon customers. If a co-operative form of business can better satisfy a customer, business will go co-operative.

Up to this time the commercial operation which we have had in America has produced a higher standard of living than any system in any other country, whether co-operative or otherwise, and it has done this only because it has been efficient. If another system can do better it will inevitably supersede the commercial type of enterprise, just as the modern efficient food store has completely eliminated the old time cracker barrel type.

Announcing Three Important Potato Meetings In August

August 15—Camp Potato, Coudersport.

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Life Members

This group is steadily growing. These gentlemen appreciate what our association has meant to them and its definite possibilities in the immediate future. You are cordially invited to join the ranks of the strong and true.

The following have been accepted into the Life Membership Club:

J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
William W. Hayes, Jersey Shore
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
McPherson Bros. Bridgeton
Leon Epler, Northumberland
R. B. Stutzman, Vintondale
John Schrope, Hegins
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

Growers—now is your opportunity. Get a **Life Membership** in the Pennsylvania Potato Growers' Association, Inc., this month.

A Letter from Our POTATO PHILOSOPHER

July 23, 1945

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary-Treasurer,
Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association,
Williamsport, Pennsylvania.

Dear Sir:

I think one of the best ways to keep in good health and to prolong your life is to plan ahead, so when I read in the Guide Post that the directors of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Grower's Association inaugurated a Life Membership, I immediately decided to become a member although I am almost 78 years old, but would like to grow potatoes for another 10 years, even though I have grown them for almost fifty years and am also one of the few remaining charter members of the Association.

Schuylkill County will send a contestant for the Pennsylvania Potato Blossom Queen, if we can find one. When must the name be sent in and what are all the requirements? Age, talents, schooling and must she do anything, as speak, sing, play, etc.?

Hegins and Mahatongo Valleys will come to Camp Potato with two bus loads—about 46 persons, stay overnight at Wellsboro, see the Canyon and early the next morning go out to the meeting.

Hegins will have a Farmers' Picnic on Saturday, August 25th. We hope you and Dr. Nixon can be there.

Yours truly,
JOHN SCHROPE

P.S.—I have enclosed $10 for Life Membership.

POTATO STARCH

A New Million-Dollar Industry Using a Farm Waste . . . Tons of Cull Spuds
By RALPH E. GALE, Secretary, Idaho Farm Chemurgic Committee

The potato starch industry in southern Idaho, no more than the dream of a few leaders in the program of farm chemurgy less than four years ago, is now a million dollar business. Factories in the potato-producing areas of Twin Falls, Blackfoot, and St. Anthony, each originally designed to produce ten tons of starch a day, have doubled their capacities in less than three years and are now buying all the low-grade potatoes available in their respective areas. This, in brief, is the story of one of Idaho's latest and most successful industries.

Idaho produces from 30 to 44 million bushels of potatoes a year, and as there is a large stake in the reputation of Idaho first grade potatoes, thousands of bushels of culls were once considered a waste product.

Cull potatoes were used to some extent for stockfeed, and in recent years a small amount of low grade potatoes has gone into the manufacture of potato flour, potato meal and alcohol, but generally speaking, no use had been found for thousands of bushels of low-grade potatoes.

Farm chemurgy found the answer. Following extensive surveys chemurgists recommended the construction of potato starch factories at Twin Falls, Blackfoot, and St. Anthony, and local corporations were formed in these centers to put plants into operation. It wasn't a simple matter in 1941 and 1942 to provide machinery and equipment under wartime restrictions, but the plants were built despite difficult obstacles.

Construction Difficulties

When steel mills told the starch factory people they could not fill orders for girders, the builders bought the steel from an abandoned bridge and welded it into supports for the drying drums and spinners of their plants. When electric firms were unable to provide needed equipment, they bought used automobile transmissions and turned them into gear reduction units to operate the agitators for the settling vats. Rewound motors, bought similarly and put into operation by engineers, ran the potato washers and shaker tables. Spinners and drying equipment from an abandoned beet sugar factory were trucked in.

That was in 1941-1942, the pioneer period for Idaho's potato starch business. Now four factories—at Twin Falls, Blackfoot, St. Anthony and Menan—are producing more than half of the white potato starch consumed in the United States, and this new industry, the Exhibit "A" of Idaho chemurgy, last year brought into the state approximately one million dollars of new income.

Company Assists Chemurgy

Idaho Power Company took a leading part in stimulating an interest in farm chemurgy, which applies the knowledge of chemistry to farm production, the science of processing, fabricating and marketing. C. J. Strike, president and general manager of the Company, who was interested in chemurgy prior to his coming to Idaho in 1938, and R. E. Gale, general sales manager, spoke extensively throughout the state on the application of chemurgy. The company's participation in the chemurgic program simply reflects its interest in helping develop industry and agriculture in the territory which it serves.

At a meeting in Nampa on May 26, 1941, the Idaho committee of the National Farm Chemurgic Council was organized. Windsor J. Lloyd, Nampa businessman, was chosen president, and Mr. Gale, secretary.

Chemurgy in Idaho was already being practiced. In an effort to find new, profitable crops for the area, test plantings of caraway, digitalis, sage, fennel, soybeans, and of other plants had been made, but the development of starch factories to utilize cull potatoes became the Idaho chemurgists' first great enterprise.

Local Companies Formed

Plans for the starch factories in the Snake River Valley, which produces most of the state's huge potato crop, were made during the spring of 1941, and by July local corporations comprising business and professional men,

Continued on page fifteen

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA
F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE—LABEL—

BLIGHT! BLIGHT!

Unless August turns out to be a dry month late blight on potatoes can and may do an irreparable damage to Pennsylvania's potato crop.

Late blight has been found in potato fields in ten counties of the state. The growth of the vine is exceptionally vigorous and continued wet weather will send disease rampant through the fields.

The only remedy is continuous and systematic spraying — using a 4-4-50 Bordeaux mixture as Pennsylvania's growers know only too well how to apply.

POTATO GROWERS' FIELD DAY

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 15, 1945
at
CAMP POTATO

U. S. Route 6—9 miles east of Coudersport, Pennsylvania

Auspices
Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association

—BLUE—LABEL—

9:00-10:30—Renewal of Acquaintances. Conferences and Discussions.
10:30-11:00—Potato Picking Contest
11:00-11:45—Dramatized—"Turning Potatoes Into Gold"
11:45-1:00—Basket Picnic—Sandwiches and refreshments on the grounds.
1:00-1:30—Introductions and Brief addresses.
1:30-2:30—Selection and Crowning of Pennsylvania's 1945 Potato Blossom Queen.
2:30—Potato Field Inspections.

AVOID SUNSCALD

To avoid sunscald, do not expose freshly dug potatoes as long as one hour to temperatures above 85 degrees F. Placing the potatoes in burlap bags or barrels will not prevent sunscald, even though the sunlight is excluded. If for any reason tubers become exposed to temperatures favorable to sunscald development, do not move them while they are still hot. It is much better to leave them in the field until the next morning when they have cooled off. If potatoes, which have been exposed to temperatures favorable for the development of sunscald, are stored at temperatures of 40 degrees to 50 degrees F. for several days, tuber rot from sunscald will be greatly reduced. It would be advisable for growers to put all potatoes in the coolest place available after they have been graded. They will lose less weight and will carry much better in transit and arrive in better condition to the consumer. Remember, *pleased consumers* mean *greater sales.*

FARM SAFETY

1. **Learn to recognize hazards.**
2. **Eliminate as many hazards as possible.**
3. **Act so as not to be hurt by remaining hazards.**

FARM SAFETY WEEK, JULY 22-28

Comparison of War and Accident Casualties

From Pearl Harbor to January 1, 1945

WAR CASUALTIES
(From Army and Navy)

Killed	163,494
Wounded	436,532
Missing	101,453
Prisoners	63,353
Total	764,832

HOME FRONT ACCIDENT TOLL
(From National Safety Council)

	All Persons	Farm Only
Killed	296,000	**53,000**
Injured	30,000,000	**5,000,000**
Work Accidents Only		
Killed on job	55,000	**13,500**
Injured	5,500,000	**700,000**
Traffic Toll Alone		
Killed	79,000	**14,500**
Injured	2,800,000	**500,000**
In Homes Alone		
Killed	96,000	**22,000**
Injured	14,000,000	**3,300,000**

IMPORTANT POTATO MEETINGS

A Potato Field meeting for northwestern Pennsylvania will be held August 16, 1945.

Growers will assemble at 10:30 A. M. at Ivan Miller's Storage, Beaver Dam—mid-way between Corry and Union City. A light lunch will be served at noon. New potato seedlings will be on parade, and large fields inspected in the immediate vicinity.

Announcements and demonstrations on packing and marketing will be made over the noon hour.

Another similar potato field meeting for southwestern Pennsylvania will be held Friday, August 19, 1945. Growers will assemble at 10:30 A. M. at Jos. Fisher's Storage near Windber. Light lunch will be served at noon.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1945 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN

Who will she be? She will be a young lady—a potato grower's daughter from one of the ten leading counties from the stand point of Blue Label potato sales during 1944-45. She will hail from either Lehigh, Erie, Somerset, Cambria, Warren, Schuylkill, Chester, Monroe, Carbon or Luzerne. Growers and leaders in each of the above counties are busily seeking out the young lady who would do justice to the county and speak well for the Potato Industry of our State. She will be chosen from the stand point of personality, voice, poise, comeliness, with ability to photograph well. Beauty alone will go far, but a combination of the above is what the judges will be looking for.

1944 Sylvia Hoober—Lancaster County

1942—Aola Howard—Potter County

1943—Caroline McHenry—Columbia County

Hard to find? No—there are hundreds of fine growers daughters that would qualify and be pleased to represent their county and our industry. This in an honor, a privilege and indeed an opportunity to popularize **Pennsylvania Potatoes.**

Potato Starch—

Continued from page eleven

farmers, and others were formed both at Twin Falls and Blackfoot. By the latter part of October, truck loads of culls were being washed, ground and processed at both plants. Later, a local group at St. Anthony, about 65 miles north of Blackfoot, organized the St. Anthony Starch Company. A fourth company was formed at Menan, a few miles south of St. Anthony, which produces wet starch and delivers it under contract to the St. Anthony Starch Company for further processing, drying, and marketing. The St. Anthony Starch Company has increased its capacity in order to handle the wet starch from Menan and now has an output equivalent to the Blackfoot and Twin Falls plants.

All four plants, locally owned and operated under competent management, have been successful, records show. These plants, in producing a total of 21,970 tons of starch, worth approximately $2,197,000, have at this time utilized more than 350,000,000 pounds of cull potatoes, equivalent to 7,922 carloads or nearly 88 full train loads.

Starch production has increased from 4,800,000 pounds in 1941-42 to 20,360,000 pounds in 1943-44.

Indications are that 1944-45 starch production will not equal the production of the preceding season due to a shortage in low-grade potatoes. As of February 1, output of the three plants so far this operating season had totaled 1,700,000 pounds, which when added to the output of the three plants for the previous operating seasons, brings the amount of white potato starch so far produced in Idaho to 43,940,000 pounds.

Market Development

Marketing of the white potato starch was assured before construction of the factories began. Following a survey of the proposed plant sites made by the late W. R. Richee of Stein-Hall and Company, New York, who was an expert in sweet potato starch development, his firm undertook the marketing of the total output of Idaho's white potato starch. The demand for the product has so far exceeded the supply.

The most extensive use for potato starch is in the textile trade in the weaving of shirting material, fine cotton and rayon goods. Potato starch is also used in the paper industry, adhesive industry, in food products such as in sirups, pie filling, dessert bases, and as an ingredient in other food preparations. Stein-Hall and Company, which has contributed a considerable amount of research to the uses of white potato starch, recently has produced and marketed a quick dessert, comparable to tapioca, made of the Idaho product.

Fewer "Culls" Than Usual

The starch factories are located in areas where adequate supplies of cull potatoes are normally available. Abnormally high market prices for all grades of potatoes caused a diversion of those normally considered culls, and thus the starch factories may suffer from a shortage of raw materials under wartime conditions. This is a year of high market prices, and the starch factories in Idaho are having some difficulty in keeping storage bins filled with culls.

Trucked to the factories, potato culls are dumped in receiving sheds where rot, dirt, and other foreign materials are removed on mechanical sorting tables. Then the potatoes are deposited into bins with hopper bottoms above concrete troughs through which water pours at a rate of about 400 gallons a minute. The culls are washed onto a conveyor and carried into a mechanical washer, thence to the first grinder at the rate of 300 to 400 pounds a minute.

As starch is heavier than the pulp of the potato, it is relatively easy to extract a pure white starch by means of a settling process, and the Idaho factories are continually improving their equipment for such processing. In two of the plants, protein separators have been added in order to produce a high-

Continued on page twenty-three

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Fewer "Culls" Than Usual

The starch factories are located in areas where adequate supplies of cull potatoes are normally available. Abnormally high market prices for all grades of potatoes caused a diversion of those normally considered culls, and thus the starch factories may suffer from a shortage of raw materials under wartime conditions. This is a year of high market prices, and the starch factories in Idaho are having some difficulty in keeping storage bins filled with culls.

Trucked to the factories, potato culls are dumped in receiving sheds where rot, dirt, and other foreign materials are removed on mechanical sorting tables. Then the potatoes are deposited into bins with hopper bottoms above concrete troughs through which water pours at a rate of about 400 gallons a minute. The culls are washed onto a conveyor and carried into a mechanical washer, thence to the first grinder at the rate of 300 to 400 pounds a minute.

As starch is heavier than the pulp of the potato, it is relatively easy to extract a pure white starch by means of a settling process, and the Idaho factories are continually improving their equipment for such processing. In two of the plants, protein separators have been added in order to produce a high-

Continued on page twenty-three

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

MARKETING PENNSYLVANIA POTATOES

By P. D. FRANTZ, Sales Manager, Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association

The Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc. has asked me to take over the general sales of potatoes throughout Pennsylvania. I realize that this is a big order and you will appreciate that only to the degree that every grower assumes his share of the responsibility, will this Co-operative venture succeed.

I am firmly convinced, and experience of the past eight years bears it out, that the Chain Stores and other Independent Food Distributors will meet our Association more than half-way in merchandising our **Trade Marked** packages. I am also convinced that the consuming public, by and large, has become a repeat customer of our Association's Blue Label Brand. We can only expect one hundred per cent consumer acceptance, when we pack and deliver one hundred per cent consumer packages—**"Every Bag Must Be Right."** Finally, I am convinced that individually we must assume a greater responsibility in packing, delivering and policing our **Trade Marked** consumer package, because if the Food Distributors and the consuming public, for any reason will not accept our Trade Marked pack, we are bound to fail. Wrigley thinks so much of his Trade Mark that when it is impossible to make a quality gum, he just advertises "Remember This Package." When the War is over he will again put gum acceptable to the consumer into the package. Then both package and gum will mean something.

Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes—A Trade Marked pack—will become famous only if the potatoes which we, one and all, pack into it to make it so. Even a few carelessly packed pecks in a load or an occasionally careless packer, will spoil the honest efforts of all. Again I say **"Every Bag Must Be Right."** In making these statements, I realize that none of us are perfect and that accidents will happen; but nevertheless, **The Pennsylvania Blue Label** quality was not intended to be a Super Pack. It is to be a practical consumer package, high enough to meet exacting consumers demands, and low enough to pack the most possible out of our production. It is as Dr. Nixon so often said, "The exact medium between too much and too little. It must be good enough to make the housewife like them and buy them or we have no home for them. They must not be so good that the average good grower cannot pack them or there will be no packing." While I am on this topic "Consumer Acceptance" the same thing applies to price. It must be the exact medium between "too much and too little." If our pack is priced too high, it will not move into consumption; if the pack is priced too low the grower will not pack. This is where the Association is making every effort in building a uniform price structure, acting as an impartial pivot to maintain a steady flow of packed potatoes to the Distributors of a uniform grade and quality, delivered on time as agreed, whether warehouse or store door. Emerson wrote: "Nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing."

The words **Vision, Integrity, Knowledge,** and **Dependability** incorporated in our Trade Mark ought to be made to mean exactly what they say. What we are trying to do in the Pennsylvania Potato marketing plan is to implement the six salient features as they were adopted in our Joint Conference Committee Meeting at Harrisburg ten years ago which were as follows:

(a) Determine a standard grade, high enough to meet exacting demands for all practical consumer acceptance and low enough to make the most of our local crops.

(b) Adopt and trade-mark a distinctive, practical and attractive pack of a size to meet the widest market demand.

(c) Determine definitely and accurately the merits and qualities of our own potatoes.

(d) Determine the true status of the potato in the diet of the normal and subnormal person.

(e) Determine and develop varieties most adapted to our growing conditions and most suited to special culinary uses.

(f) Set up machinery by which the grading and packing of the adopted brands will be guaranteed to the consumer and made available in sufficient volume to interest large purchasers.

All of these items are being worked on constantly toward the end that better potatoes are being produced, better packs being packed, more satisfied consumers served, and a dependable delivery. Every customer was once a prospect, every prospect a stranger. Get acquainted.

"MAKING THE GRADE"

In all Fairness to Consumer and Fairness to Producer

We are now launching into the association's ninth marketing season with the best prospects for a real movement of **Blue Label Potatoes** to market by the way of our co-operating distributive channels. Co-operation on the part of buyers is expected to be 100 per cent and the co-operation of growers and packers likewise—splendid. When your buyers and sales managers "get together" they work upon the basis that each is handling a product well standardized and of value. They are not working on a charitable sentimental basis, but, definitely on a Business Basis with faith in the fact that the co-operative movement can, and will come through.

From the food distributors angle, our **Blue Label Potatoes** must be U. S. No. 1, 2" minimum of good appearance and a good "buy" in any man's language. Each package cannot and will not be inspected and rated by him but someone does do the **rating**—in 90 per cent of the cases none other than the good housewife. The **Final Decision** is in her hands. If her initial purchase is satisfactory, a little bit better than she expected, she will buy more and still more of our **Blue Labels.** If, on the other hand, her purchase was a poor one or even just fairly satisfactory we as an association of growers will not hear of her individual complaint but within a few weeks **we will know** through reduced store-door or warehouse movement. Growers will call and write our sale's offices asking, "where is our order for this week, what happened?" The answer is simple—some one or several deliveries made were of a border line quality or even under grade.

Now, what is the solution? Maintain the grade above all and at all costs. If to grade and pack is too expensive, that is, too many number 2's and Pickouts then the advice is **Do Not Attempt to Pack Blue Labels.** If 25 to 30 per cent must be picked out and placed in number 2's, your crop will sell to more advantage as commercials or unclassified.

Experiences

The fact that potatoes are in Blue Label paper bags will sell perhaps the first order—but it's the repeat orders that make a volume movement. True, many house-wives may expect too much for their money, they may expect fancy potatoes in as handsome a package as ours. We do not pretend to put up a Fancy Package but we have definitely obligated ourselves to put up a good, U. S. No. 1, 2" minimum, package. Blue Labels should be building a reputation for quality and dependability. So that consumers need only mention Blue Labels and the retailer in all confidence can sell them to her without apologies or further qualifications. The writer visited a store in the southern part of the state recently, four brands including Blue Labels were on display, the area superintendent had just placed a good order for delivery to his stores. Blue Labels and competitors' consumer packages were examined carefully with absolute satisfaction to both—going across the street more packages were inspected but with negative findings. Whose face was "Red?" Excuses were made — you know rainy weather, rush order, labor shortage etc. Did that satisfy our superintendent friends? Yes, partly for he is a fair minded chap, he realizes difficulties connected with potato production and packaging today. Will these same **excuses** hold the next time we meet? Good intentions on the part of growers will not be sufficient next time. It has gotten to the point with the buyer that he is interested in the potato business—volume business just as much as we growers. If volume does not come through the handling of **Blue Labels** he naturally will be expected to handle the brand that does move, and give his company that volume business. That's his **job!** Our job as an association of growers is to maintain zealously and guard jealously the quality and reputation of Blue Labels. It's our trade-marked package and our only stock in the trade.

Some Helps in "Making the Grade":

1. **Analyze the bin**—can you economically make U. S. No. 1, 2" minimum Blue Labels? Considering all defects, size and disease.

2. **Set-Up Equipment Conveniently** with economy of labor and time in mind.

3. **Set the "Grader" (sizer).** Blue Pecks call for 2" minimum size. Everything over this size belongs in the Bag —if free from sunburn, wire worm, serious scab, etc., etc.

4. Light, with a Reflector, must be strong enough over the picking table.

5. **Shovel onto grader** or elevator **with discretion** as to speed and care.

6. **Insulate** "Peck Bagger" to prevent bruising; an old rubber tire will do.

7. **Pick out all questionable tubers** as they pass by—you'll miss enough at best.

8. **Weigh accurately**—15 lbs. 6 oz. A check weight should be available—scales go out of adjustment easy enough.

9. **Never leave the picking table** without an inspector while potatoes are rolling over.

10. **Grade Inspector** should check on his work occasionally. Empty onto floor; out-of-grade potatoes weighing over 14 oz. per peck are definitely "out of grade" and should not be allowed to leave the premises in Blue Label packages. Use your knife, too.

Potato Varnish

A new type of resinous coating material that looks like varnish and which stands high temperature and the action of most chemicals and solvents can be made from sugars and starches. Surplus farm crops, like small potatoes and corn, are capable of developing a new type of finish to furniture and floors, according to an announcement by the Agricultural Research Administration of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The product is known as "allyl starch" and is prepared by treating starch with either allyl chloride or allyl bromide. At the time of preparation allyl starch and other allyl carbohydrates are soluble in most paint and varnish solvents. In this soluble state they may be readily applied to wood, metal, paper, glass, textiles, or other surfaces. When allyl starch has been thoroughly cured by contact with air or by the application of heat it undergoes a complex chemical change and produces a hard, smooth surface. This cured surface is extremely resistant to organic solvents, acids, alkalies and other corrosive agents.

OFFICIAL GRADES FOR POTATOES

Adopted by the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Grades and Standards as a basis for any farm commodity and product of industry, as well, is a necessary evil. They set minimum requirements for marketable products. In most instances grades and standards are reasonable and well within production possibilities. The Pennsylvania Blue Label package calls definitely for U. S. No. 1 grade with a 2" minimum size, making a **good economical buy.** It is neither too high for the farmer to meet nor too low for consumer recognition and acceptance. It is not a **Super-Pack** but a good product fair to all concerned. Minimum grades and minimum weights for each package are being well met with a small percentage of actual violations. Every effort is being made to reduce this small percentage which naturally looms large in view of the fact that millions of packages are finding their way to the kitchen table. The following official standards are being printed herewith as a reminder to all growers, contact men and grade supervisors.

Tolerances

All percentages shall be calculated on the basis of weight.

The tolerances for the standards are on the basis of the container. However, individual packages in any lot may vary from the specified tolerances as stated below, provided the average for the entire lot, based on sample inspection, are within the tolerances specified.

For a tolerance of 10 per cent, or more, individual packages in any lot may contain not more than one and one-half (1½) times the tolerance specified, except that when the package contains 15 specimens or less, individual packages may contain not more than double the tolerance specified.

For a tolerance of less than 10 per cent, individual packages in any one lot may contain not more than double the tolerance specified provided at least one specimen which does not meet the requirements shall be allowed in any one package.

BLUE LABEL GRADE shall consist of potatoes of one variety or of similar varietal characteristics, which are fairly well shaped, fairly clean, free from frost injury, blackheart and soft rot or wet breakdown and from damage caused by sunburn, second growth, growth cracks, air cracks, hollow heart, cuts, shriveling, sprouting, scab, blight, dry rot, rhizoctonia, other diseases, insects or mechanical or other damage. (See definition of terms.)

Unless otherwise stated or specified the size of the potatoes shall be two (2) inches minimum and not over sixteen (16) ounces maximum by weight. In the fifteen (15) pound sack or in the standard peck sack this grade requires that 60 per cent of the potatoes shall exceed two and one-quarter (2¼) inches in diameter.

TOLERANCES FOR DEFECTS — In order to allow for variations incidental to proper grading and handling, not more than 6 per cent shall be below the requirements of this grade but not to exceed one-sixth (1/6) of this amount, or one per cent, shall be allowed for soft rot or wet breakdown. In addition, not more than 5 per cent may be damaged by hollow heart.

TOLERANCE FOR SIZE—In order to allow for variations incidental to proper sizing, not more than 5 per cent shall be below the minimum size, and not over 10 per cent shall be in excess of the maximum size.

Definition of Terms

DAMAGE means any injury or defect which materially injures the appearance of the individual potato, or the general appearance of the potato in the container, or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 5 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area.

Loss of outer skin (epidermis) shall not be considered a damage unless the skinned surface is materially affected by very dark discoloration. Any one of the following defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered a damage.

SECOND GROWTH or growth cracks which have developed to such an extent as to materially injure the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container.

AIR CRACKS which are deep, or shallow air cracks which materially injure the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container.

SHRIVELING—When the potato is more than moderately shriveled, spongy, or flabby.

SPROUTING—When more than 10 per cent of the potatoes have sprouts over three-fourths (¾) of an inch long.

SURFACE SCAB which covers an area of more than 5 per cent of the surface of the potato in the aggregate.

PITTED SCAB which affects the appearance of the potatoes in a greater extent than the amount of surface scab permitted, or causes a loss of more than 5 per cent of the total weight of the potato, including peel covering defective area.

RHIZOCTONIA—When the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is materially injured or when individual potatoes are badly infected.

DIRT—When the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is more than slightly dirty or stained, or when individual potatoes are badly caked with dirt or badly stained, or covered with other foreign matter which materially affects the appearance of the potatoes.

RED LABEL GRADE—Medium sized potatoes shall meet all the requirements of the BLUE LABEL grade except that the size requirements will be a minimum of one and one-half (1½) inches and a maximum of two and one-fourth (2¼) inches.

GREEN LABER GRADE shall consist of potatoes which meet the requirements of the BLUE LABEL grade except that they shall be free from serious damage by dirt and except for the increased tolerance for defects specified below:

Unless otherwise specified the diameter of each potato shall not be less than one and seven-eighth (1⅞) inches.

TOLERANCE FOR DEFECTS — In order to allow for variations other than size and sprouting incident to proper grading and handling, not more than a total of 20 per cent of the potatoes in any container may be below the requirements of this grade, but not more than 5 per cent may be seriously damaged by hollow heart and not over 6 per cent may be below the remaining requirements of U.S. No. 2 grade.

Potato Starch—

Continued from page fifteen

quality, taste-free starch which is used in food preparation.

The ground potatoes are discharged onto shaker screens that separate the starch milk from the pulp, which is passed through a mill for regrinding into finer pulp for further screening. The pulp discharged from this operation is a stock feed product, which is being recovered and sold at St. Anthony at the rate of 15 tons per day.

Starch milk from the shakers is pumped into vats where the starch, containing some impurities, is allowed to settle. The protein water is then drained to the sewer. The starch deposit is agitated and washed with fresh water, a process which is repeated until all impurities are removed. The washed starch is centrifuged or filtered to bring the moisture content down to about 40 per cent. From the centrifuge or filter, it passes through a rotary dryer. It is then sifted, bagged and stacked in a warehouse ready for shipment to markets.

Cull potatoes, once an expensive waste, are now "velvet" to the potato growers, provide added payrolls in the communities and represent an important industry in the state.

NEW AGRONOMY HEAD

Dr. Harold Kirby Wilson, acting chief of agronomy at the University of Minnesota, has been named professor and head of the department of agronomy at The Pennsylvania State College. He will assume his duties July 1, and succeeds Dr. Charles F. Noll '06, who has retired.

Dr. Wilson, who obtained his bachelor of science degree from Iowa State College in 1924, did graduate work at the University of Illinois, and received his master's degree in 1925 and his doctorate in 1927.

He has been a member of the department of agronomy at the University of Minnesota since 1927, serving as chief of agronomy since 1936.

The author of several bulletins on small grains and weed control, published by the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, he has conducted research work on wheat and oats breeding and weed control. He served as chairman of the co-operative weed research program conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture and the Minnesota Experiment Station.

1945-'46

PAPER BAG PRICES and REGULATIONS

Attention: Growers, Grade Supervisors, Contactmen

Effective August 1, 1945, and until further notice, the following prices and regulations on Association trade-marked paper potato bags will prevail:

PRICES:

Blue Label	15's (2 wall—60/50)	$25.00 per M.
Red Label	15's (2 wall—60/50)	$24.50 per M.
Economy	15's (2 wall—60/50)	$24.00 per M.
Blue Label	50's (2 wall—70/60) or (3 wall—40/40/50)	$57.00 per M.
Blue Label	50's (3 wall—50/50/50)	$63.00 per M.
Unclassified	50's (2 wall—70/60)	$52.00 per M.

The above prices are for DELIVERY to ANY point in Pennsylvania or at officially designated warehouses and **include** the wire loop ties and the commission of the Association.

SPECIFICATIONS:

15-pound bags, two wall 60/50-110 weight. Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, two wall 70/60-130 weight, Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, three wall 50/50/50 wet strength & Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, three wall 40/40/50 weight, Natural Kraft

TERMS:

All Association trade-marked paper potato bags are shipped on a C.O.D. basis (NO EXCEPTIONS). When bags are forwarded by rail, shipments will be made sight draft attached to bill of lading; when shipments go forward by truck, arrangements must be made by the consignee to settle for same at destination, either by check (Certified Check not required), or in cash.

DISTRIBUTION POINTS:

Hummel Warehouse Co., Inc., 728-40 N. 15th St., Allentown, Pa.
Jacob K. Mast Warehouse, Blue Ball, Pa., (On U. S. Route 322)
Somerset Farm Bureau Co-operative Association, Somerset, Pa.
J. C. Jacobsen & Son, Girard, Pa.
Ed Fisher Warehouse, Coudersport, Penna.
Roy Hess Farm, Stillwater, near Benton, Penna.
G. L. F. Warehouse, c/o J. M. Hindman, Union City, Pa.

All bags for warehouse pick-ups must be released by an authorized representative of the Association, on a bag release order, for pick-up at any of the above authorized distribution points and will, in all cases, be subject to the above cash terms.

DIRECT DELIVERIES:

All orders for Association trade-marked paper potato bags for either rail or truck shipments must clear through the Association office, Williamsport, Pa., NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THIS REGULATION.

When placing orders for bags which are to move by rail, **be sure to designate** correct shipping address and name and address of the bank through which draft is to be drawn. When movement is by truck be sure to have check or cash arranged for when the bags arrive at designated destination.

PAYMENTS:

When bags are shipped sight draft attached to bill of lading, PAY ONLY THE

AMOUNT OF THE DRAFT. When bags are shipped by truck, pay either by check (Certified Check not required), or in cash. In either instance, when draft or invoice corresponds with the number of bags ordered, and in accordance with the above price schedule, DO NOT PAY ANY ADDITIONAL COLLECTION, FREIGHT, HANDLING OR TRUCKING CHARGES. **Prices quoted are delivered prices.**

PACKING:

All bags are bundled, wrapped and tied. The 50-pound bags are packed 150 or 200 to the bundle and the 15-pound bags are packed 250 to the bundle. BUNDLES CANNOT BE BROKEN.

TIES (Wire Loop):

Sufficient wire loop ties will be inserted in a Kraft envelope in each bundle of bags.

Additional wire loop ties (5 inch ties, 250 per envelope) and (6 inch ties, 200 per envelope) will be made available at all distributing points and will also be supplied with freight or truck shipments when ordered at 25c per envelope.

ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES:

The following items will be supplied direct from the Association office, on a C.O.D. basis only, all transportation charges prepaid.

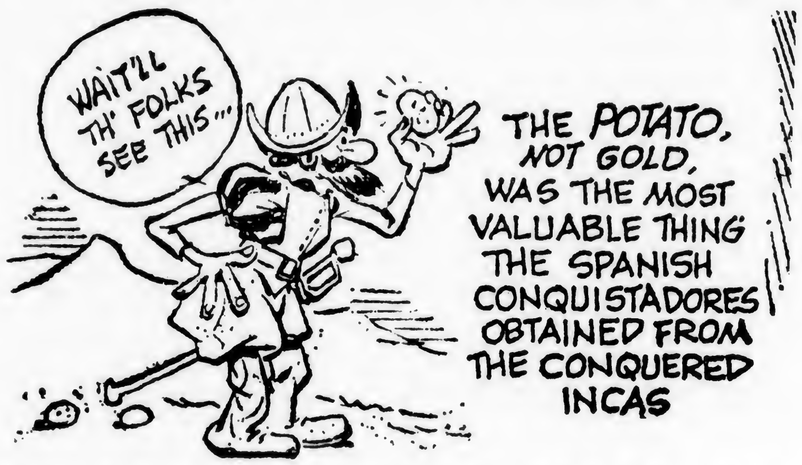
Pistol-Grip Twisters ..... $1.25 each
Receipt and Invoice Books ..... .15 each

Should any irregularity occur, contact the Association office, Williamsport, Pa., **at once.**

Co-operatively yours,
PENNSYLVANIA CO-OPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS' ASSOCIATION, INC.
C. F. H. Wuesthoff
Secretary and Treasurer

Don't Miss

"Turning Potatoes Into Gold"



POTATO GROWERS FIELD DAY
"CAMP POTATO"

Route 6—9 miles east of Coudersport, Pennsylvania

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Official Application for Recording a Checked Acre of Potatoes and for Qualifying for Membership in Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club

....., 19....

Gentlemen: In accordance with the regulations and instructions promulgated by the Association for administering Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club I, ..., of.....
(Signature of applicant in own handwriting) (Post Office)

R.F.D....., ..., Pennsylvania, have requested and
(County)

had an acre of potatoes checked by....., who
(Name of Official Supervisor)

has performed this service as evidenced by his official report appearing below. I understand that any grower who has an acre of potatoes officially checked and makes the required yield, thereby becomes a bona fide member of Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club, (see Regulation 1). It is understood, however, that in order for a Club member to be awarded the Official 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, (Regulation 8) that Regulation 7, parts a and b, must be fully complied with.

Check one: ( ) I am a member of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., in good standing for the current year, or

( ) I apply hereby for membership in the Association, and my dollar membership fee is attached to this application.

AS A MATTER OF HISTORICAL RECORD: In view of the many new varieties being introduced, this yield was made with.....
(Name Variety)

Recognizing the possibilities of other improvements or innovations, the following departure from the usual practices was used:.....

.....

.....

OFFICIAL RECORD: As supervisor in the checking of an acre of potatoes for the above named applicant, I hereby certify that I have performed that service and the yield as stated below is official. I recommend, provided applicant has fully met the conditions set forth in the regulations and instructions, that the Official Association 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, be awarded as a mark of distinction.

Yield per acre:.....bushels. Date checked:... .....,19...

(Signed).....
County Agent or Vocational Instructor
or Association Representative

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of The Guide Post

BLUE LABEL

James Kehrer, Lycoming
Gordon Bartter, Ohio
Aaron Blank, Lancaster
G. W. Heinle, Ohio
G. C. Morgan & Sons, Michigan
Fred Bechel, Cambria
Joseph Le Van, Columbia
Albert Trexler, Berks
Frank Clark, Connecticut
Norman Nolt, Lancaster
Chas. D. Honaberger, Columbia
Percy Smith, Ohio
George Capela, Erie
Samuel D. Butz, Lehigh
Joseph DeFrance, Ohio
Lester Litzelman, Bradford
R. N. Benjamin, Dauphin
Irvin Behm, Indiana
Walter G. Atwood, Ohio
P. C. Strittmatter, Cambria
E. Paul Hoover, Cambria
H. W. Connarro, Warren
Milford Bartter, Ohio
R. J. Breish. Columbia
George McCormick, Union
Gladen Walker, Somerset
Morris Musser, Ohio
Clarence W. Reitz, Northumberland
Chas. A. Gackenbach, Lehigh
C. H. Pepper, Florida
Stanley Laurence, Warren
Reid Waring, Crawford
Clarence M. Klinger, Schuylkill
Edgar G. Gooderham, Cambria
B. F. Zimmerman, Schuylkill
Fred W. Willgrube, Ohio
Lilly Brothers, Erie
Leon Everling, Sullivan
Willard Cornell, Luzerne
Richard Smith, Lehigh
*Leon Epler, Northumberland
Leo A. Hoover, Cambria
Kenneth Sharbaugh, Cambria
*R. B. Stutzman, Cambria
*John Shrope, Schuylkill

* Life Membership.

"I hear the Jones family have eleven children."

"Yes, they've gone stork mad."

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Regulations for Checking Yield of Potatoes For 400-Bushel Club

HINTS ON LOCATING BEST ACRE:

Determine by lay of land, by sampling, knowledge of the grower, and character of vine growth, where the probable high-yielding acre lies.

A few preliminary checks made by digging and weighing the potatoes from 50 feet of row at different points in the acre will reveal fairly accurately whether a 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushel yield is to be checked. The following table gives the necessary pounds from 50 feet of row to indicate a yield of 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushels per acre:

Length of Check	Width of Row	400 Bushels	500 Bushels	600 Bushels	700 Bushels
feet of row	inch rows	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
50	28	64.4	80.5	96.6	112.7
50	29	66.7	83.3	100.0	116.7
50	30	69.0	86.2	103.5	120.7
50	31	71.2	89.0	106.8	124.6
50	32	73.5	91.8	110.2	128.6
50	33	75.7	94.5	113.5	132.4
50	34	78.0	97.5	117.0	136.5

REGULATIONS FOR CHECKING ACRE:

1. The acre to be checked shall be made up of any number of continuous equal length rows.

2. To qualify for a 400 or 500 bushel yield at least one-tenth of the acre must be dug and this area shall be included in the check so that not more than ten consecutive undug rows will be left in any portion of the acre.

3. To qualify for a 600 or 700 bushel yield the entire acre shall be dug and weighed.

4. Selection of rows to be dug may include rows adjacent to, and rows not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks. A proportionate number of each shall be dug. The number of rows adjacent to, and not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks will vary with the size of the spray boom used.

5. Accuracy in measuring and marking the acre to be dug in weighing and counting the yield is important to the perpetuation of the 400-Bushel Club.

6. All applications, either for Club membership or to have the 400-Bushel Medal awarded (including official yields) must be forwarded to the office of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, not later than DECEMBER FIRST of each year. Applications may be forwarded either by the grower or the Verifying Officer.

VISION
The **GUIDE POST**
PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

PENNSYLVANIA'S 1945 POTATO BLOSSOM QUEEN AND HER COURT.

Left to right, back row—Betty Jane Christman, Monroe County; Anna Schneck, Lehigh County; Queen Anna Mae Dennison, Schuylkill County; Kathryn Schneck, Lehigh County; Miriam Johnston, Luzerne County. Front row—Ruth Miller, Cambria County; Thelma Troyer, Erie County, Annabelle Graver, Carbon County; Frances Lohr, Somerset County; Leona Leofsky, Warren County, with Rita Marie Fisher, Miss in Waiting, Potter County, in the foreground.

AUGUST — 1945

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 8

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The GUIDE POST

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AUGUST — 1945

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THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by

THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

Sales Office
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Sales Manager
720 N. EIGHTH STREET
ALLENTOWN, PA.

ROY R. HESS
Area Manager
Stillwater, Pa.
Near Benton

J. M. HINDMAN
Area Manager
11½ Gardner Bldg.,
Union City, Pa.

JOSEPH FISHER
Area Manager
611 Swank Bldg.,
Johnstown, Pa.

Volume XXII **August, 1945** **Number 8**

NEWS AND VIEWS

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor,
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

He that tilleth his land shall have plenty of bread; but he that followeth after vain persons shall have poverty enough.—Proverbs 29:19.

Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction; but he that regardeth reproof shall be honored.—Proverbs 13:18.

During the last week of July and the first two weeks of August, it has been my privilege to view the Potato situation over the entire state.

Never before have I seen Potato Growers start out with as great a handicap as with this season. West of the Blue Ridge Mountains are almost universal poor stands due to wet soil at planting time. East of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the crop to July 15th never looked as good; but from then on—rain and still more rain.

Never before have I seen Pennsylvania Potato Growers go to almost superhuman efforts to plant and protect their crops. It was these efforts of our growers that prompted me to introduce this article with the two Scriptural Quotations.

As of this date—August 28—the Pennsylvania Potato Outlook is none too good. Undoubtedly, 50 per cent of our entire acreage is dead without much of a yield.

Over 60 per cent of Pennsylvania's potato acreage is still not sprayed. It is made up of the farm patches. The total yield in a **good** year never amounts to a third of the state's production. When it fails, as in such a year as this, it means that there is a very much enlarged local consumer trade. Transforming two-thirds of Pennsylvania's

farmers from a "few extra" to sell to a "few extra" to buy makes a difference.

It is a fact that about one-third of Pennsylvania's acreage will come through with a normal yield averaging about 250 bushels per acre.

After all, this is the test of the Potato Grower: A crop the rule, failure the exception, growing potatoes in spite of the weather—not on account of it.

The weather for the most part has righted itself. In the Potter, Erie and Somerset areas, since planting time, it has been almost ideal. The central area, extending west to, and including Mr. Ramseyer, is on the dry side; crops have suffered. Rain in the east has let up—not without doing a great deal of injury to both potatoes and wheat.

Here at State College today, August 23, we are hvaing an 18 hour **steady** rain—the first in four weeks. It comes a little late for many patches.

Mr. Fowler of Macungie looking over Mr. Frantz's new storage, said; "P. D., you must have faith in the future of Potato Growing to build a storage like this."

Yes, it takes faith in one's own ability to build a potato storage.

Potato growing is not a fly-by-night proposition. One should set out to succeed in **ten years.**

A. J. Snyder of Lehigh County is also just completing a new storage. On September 19, one of the largest potato storages in the East will be dedicated.

Mr. E. D. Timberlake of Indiana County is just reconstructing a large barn storage.

Excavating is just completed for a storage on Route 6 in Potter County. These are just a few expressions of the confidence men have in their own ability, and in the future of the potato industry in Pennsylvania.

Most growers who build storages never get them quite big enough. Potatoes are bulky and take a lot of space. It seems like it takes a lot of money to construct storages—and so it does—but they are almost indispensable. One can soon pay for a storage in the loss from frozen potatoes, and worry for fear they will freeze.

A storage to be complete should have a packing shed that is also frost proof and provided with artificial heating to dry the potatoes and bags after packing.

Potatoes coming out of a cold cellar into a humid atmosphere "sweat." Raising the temperature dries them off and the bags transport more safely and satisfactorily.

One of the most common mistakes in storage construction is shoving the walls in by refilling. A wall will not stand shoving the earth against it with a bulldozer. Frost pushes just as hard against the wall down to the bottom of the frost line as does the bulldozer. For this reason the eaves should extend about four feet over the fill. Dry dirt never freezes enough to shove.

Another mistake is that of making the ceiling impervious to moisture. Exposed straw is still the best ceiling.

The weakest places against the frost entrance are the eaves. Bank them well and keep them dry.

After reconversion, seed bins should be provided with artificial cooling or refrigeration.

Badly sprouted seed cuts the yield. It is important to design storages to save as much labor as practicable in filling and emptying. Potatoes are heavy, and unnecessary handling is tiresome and expensive. Dr. Daniel A. Polling writing in his column the other day wrote on Bill Stempfle, the "Pace Setter," as follows:

Bill Stempfle is the agricultural agent of the Extension Service of Steuben county in New York State. He is a constructive American who takes life where he finds it and makes it richer and better for everyone. What he has done is a challenge to every other county in America, and particularly to those rural counties by-passed by modern prosperity.

Steuben is a county of rolling hills, plateaus and valleys. Through erosion and neglect some of the land had "gone back." But Bill Stempfle insisted that here was ideal potato land. Even five years ago Steuben county grew only five acres of certified potato seed. During the past season Steuben county produced 1000 acres of certified seed—one quarter of the seed potato production of the entire Empire State. This seed is now sold all over the eastern United States.

Bill reports the record of less than 20 years somewhat as follows: "30,000 acres purchased by newcomers . . . total investment of three-quarter million dollars . . . an abandoned wheel factory at Avoca, IOOF hall at Wallace, night club at North Hornell, vinegar plant and canning factory at Cohocton, furniture factory at Wayland, all in disuse

for years, converted into potato storages of one and one-half million bushels . . . scores of houses purchased in half a dozen villages in the potato belt."

A few years ago some of Maine's potato growers came to see what it was all about. They were so impressed that now Steuben has a colony known as "Little Maine." Every year there is a Steuben County Potato Field Day along the middle of August. Potato growers come together from a dozen counties of southern and western New York and western Pennsylvania—and there are visitors from farther away.

Bill Stempfle takes pride in the fact that what has been accomplished represents united effort—all kinds of people working together for the common good; that there has been no overnight boom, but substantial progress and permanent growth over a period of years.

North Western Pennsylvania has thousands and thousands of acres of non-eroding land, a land of new beginnings, waiting for men of vision and faith whose hopes and dreams of the future are rooted in the soil, who desire to become creators of wealth, who appreciate ownership, and like to **live** "off the road."

FIELD DAY—CAMP POTATO

— Field Day Preparations —

The 1945 Potato Growers' Field Day according to all reports was pronounced the most successful of any held heretofore. The day, the crowd and the program was of the best. Not too warm, not too cold, not too large, not too small (crowd), and not too long or too short (program). Everything seemed to click, which speaks well for the splendid cooperation among all directly concerned. The Camp Field Day really began for many of us two and three days before the big day. Future Farmer Boys from Somerset, Franklin and Fulton counties came early to assist in getting things ready. Vocational Schools and F.F.A. Advisors in charge of these groups were: W. D. Igo, Berlin; J. W. Johnson, Warfordsburg; Norman Hoover, Chambersburg; Jos. Shelly, Shanksville; E. E. Blackburn, Richmond Furnace; Linn Shatzer, St. Thomas. These men and their boys were most cooperative. They cleared fields of stones, made road beds, drove Cletrac in plowing and dragging, cut weeds and lawns, cleaned interior and exterior of the camp proper. In addition to all this these young men found time to practice the playlet, "Turning Potatoes into Gold," for Field Day, under the direction of L. D. Odhner, Manager of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council. This willing cooperative attitude among the boys and their instructors accounted for the smoothing out of many of the threatened rough spots.

Tuesday afternoon, August 14, the directors of our Association met to discuss routine matters and decide upon the seasons marketing plan. After a bounteous meal of lobsters, clams, chicken, sweetcorn, potatoes, all early comers gathered for an informal, varied program of movies, speaking and singing. Victor Engles, of the Coudersport "Spud Chapter" under the direction of Advisor Dewey, presented a paper on the Cooperative movement, which was most thorough and convincing. A high light of the evening was selections by a harmony quartet composed of members of The Staiger Family, of Coudersport. The Schneck twins, of Lehigh County, sang several attractive numbers. A talkie movie entitled "Building A Heritage" concluded a pleasant evening. This latter picture illustrated in a most graphic way just what a cooperative with the right leadership could do in the purchasing and selling of supplies and equipment.

Field Day Activities

Field Day activities began in earnest with the renewal of "Old Acquaintances" and the inspection of our precious seedling plots under the enthusiastic guidance of Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council. Promptly on schedule the Potato Picking Contest was staged, which was the most interesting and thrilling to see experts practicing this most necessary task for fun and honor.

"Turning Potatoes into Gold" was dramatized most effectively by way of a Broadcast, which was to have been recorded and transcribed by none other than Homer Martz, Agricultural An-

nouncer of KDKA, Pittsburgh. Mr. Martz had tire trouble enroute, otherwise he would have been on hand.

Over 500 growers and their families were served a cafeteria luncheon at noon, while many others enjoyed their own basket picnic.

The Selection and Crowning of Pennsylvania's 1945 Potato Blossom Queen was a most colorful event. Former Queen, Aola Howard Maxison, of Shinglehouse, presided with her usual poise, dignity and grace, while ten potato growers daughters from nine important counties, passed in review. Every county represented should indeed be proud of his entrant in the Court of Honor. After fully an hours deliberation, Miss Anna Mae Dennison, of Zions Grove, Schuylkill county, was pronounced the 1945 Potato Blossom Queen who in turn commissioned all fair contestants as her Court of Honor.

Miles Horst, Pennsylvania's Secretary of Agriculture, after a few well chosen remarks, officially crowned Anna Mae Dennison Queen for 1945. Miss Dennison's selection, we believe, was a good one. She comes from a long line of active potato growers, she is a Senior in Indiana State Teachers College, and was chosen their Queen last spring. It is believed that she will indeed do honor to our $35,000,000 Industry and publicize and popularize

Continued on page eleven

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Continued on page eleven

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

Please!—Don't Take Chances

Potato Digging and Harvesting will soon be in full swing, literally hundreds of diggers will be operated throughout the country within the month but are these machines ready. Ready from the standpoint of safety to the operator. The manufacturer of every digger on the market has equipped all machines with adjustable protective covers for the worker's protection. Dear Grower—We ask you, is your Power Take-off shield securely in place, is the Safety-Clutch cover adjusted and in place? Too many men and boys have had serious accidents through careless disregard of the hazard of exposed moving parts. Fully 50 cases have come to our attention where fingers had been mangled, legs had been twisted and crushed and even arms had been literally torn from their sockets.

We are being cautioned through radio and press to Beware of the Gentle Bull—not much has been said about your tractor's **Exposed Power-Take-Off.** It is worse than the Gentle Bull. Once clothing is caught the wearer hasn't a ghost of a chance—so why take a chance, Folks? Sure, the shields and guards are a nuisance—but they are there for a purpose—to protect life and limb. You cannot afford for one minute to expose yourself, your son, your hired man or anyone else to this "Wild Bull" of the potato field. Don't treat it lightly—this is serious business.

Offhand the following have had serious accidents only too recently:

Harry Long, Pittsfield; L. T. Dennison; Claude Fisher, State College; Wallace Albright, State College, Frank Fisher, Boswell, lost their pants and escaped with serious battering and bruising.

Junior Coburn of Potter, lost an arm and only within the past two weeks, Wesley Koch, Jersey Shore, William W. Hayes' right hand man had his leg so badly mangled, crushed and bruised that Doctors were forced to amputate above the knee. "Wes" was one of the most careful, trustworthy and reliable men the writer has ever known, but even he became careless at a time when his services were indispensable. We cannot stress—the Power Take-off Hazard too strongly. **Safety-First** folks and I mean Safety First. Remember the **Wild Bull of the Potato Field** is no respecter of persons. You may be next.

"How's the wife?"

"Bad. She's got quinsy."

"Good heavens! How many does that make altogether?"

Field Day—

Continued from page eight

Blue Label Potatoes in every corner of this grand old Keystone State.

R. N. Benjamin, of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Cooperative, gave a brief address and emphasized the need of farmers thinking, planning and doing big things together through cooperative organizations.

Dr. F. F. Lininger, Research Director of the Pennsylvania State College, spoke briefly of the value of "get-togethers" such as the State Potato Growers' Field Day and complimented growers and friends upon the splendid occasion. Dr. Lininger expressed himself as heartily in favor of the activities and purposes of this Association.

Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, addressed the group with most timely and fitting remarks. He stressed the seedling program and re-emphasized the importance of securing a potato suitable to consumers and to producers. The promise shown by seedling varieties on the "Camp Plots" were splendid and most gratifying.

After hundreds of pictures were snapped of the Queen and her Court, Association President J. A. Donaldson of Emlenton, presented Life Membership Certificates to the original 13 and ordered some 20 more from platform. This spirit showed plainly that many growers have faith and confidence in the future of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association as well as an appreciation of what it has already accomplished.

Immediately following the program and ceremonies the largest line of cars ever, accompanied Dr. E. L. Nixon on a tour of several fields in the neighborhood of "Camp Potato." Alfred Stauffer Company of Honey Brook, demonstrated his potato harvester and H. C. Stockdale of the Bean Manufacturing Company gave a brief demonstration of a potato digger that has been in the making for the past several years. It is a most revolutionary bit of machinery that has some promise.

"What's the difference between a snake and a flea?"

"A snake crawls on its own stomach, and a flea's not as particular."

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE—LABEL—

Growers and Distributors

We would call your attention to the definite location and establishment of the Association's Sales Offices, for the purpose of facilitating increased packing and marketing of Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes. Growers and buyers in need of assistance and supplies are urged to contact their nearest office.

Northeastern Area— Roy R. Hess, Manager
Stillwater, Penna.
Phone—Benton 34R14

Southeastern Area— Hiram A. Frantz, Manager
720 N. Eighth Street
Allentown, Penna.
Phone—Allentown 3-1765

Southwestern Area— Joseph H. Fisher, Manager
611 Swank Building
Johnstown, Penna.
Phone—Johnstown 82271

Northwestern Area— J. M. Hindman, Manager
11½ Gardner Building
Union City, Penna.
Phone—Union City 200

Additions may be made from time to time—watch!

Marketing Pennsylvania Potatoes

P. Daniel Frantz, Sales Manager

The new marketing setup of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association has a three-fold object, namely:

1. To net to the individual grower or producer an equitable share of the consumer's dollar through streamlined distribution.
2. To establish a reputation with the consuming trade for good and dependable quality and service.
3. To create a feeling of mutual co-operation among producers and a friendly business relationship between the co-operative and the distributors.

First.—Equitable Distribution. Our growers should appreciate the splendid business relationship and helpful co-operation of the chain stores and independent food distributors in channeling our own trade-marked packs direct from the farm to the nearest stores or into their warehouses with no commission charged.

This is streamline marketing of farm products and is actually returning a larger share of the consumer's dollar back to the farm than any other system of marketing.

For once Pennsylvania potato growers sell a standardized package of a standardized quality at one price to everybody, whether by the hundred or hundred thousand. This is going a long way in establishing agriculture where she is and belongs—the foundation of American economy.

Agriculture is America's biggest industrial purchaser. When agriculture has no purchasing power, the nation is in an economic depression.

Second.—Quality and Service. The association has had ten years' experience packing its own trade-marked consumer packages. It has had for an equal period, the most helpful, friendly business relationship with the chain stores and other distributors.

The association has gone a long way in establishing a reputation for a good and dependable quality. We have gone farther perhaps in the past five years than in the previous fifty in establishing the concept in the minds of new growers as to the importance of dependable quality in an identified package.

Pennsylvania Potato Growers must build some foundation and construction consisting of timely deliveries, steady flow, and all other factors essential in satisfying the customers, the housewife, and the distributors. The potato industry throughout the country may encounter, in the not too distant future, due to economic conditions, a decline of financial returns for their produce. Happy indeed will be those growers who, through dependable quality and service, will continue to enjoy at least an active outlet as compared with those who are speculative growers and packers of nondescript quality.

Third. — Co-operation. Unique in Pennsylvania's marketing plan is the Joint Conference. The Joint Conference is the place where differences are minimized. The place where the good things men do are accentuated. It is the place where both sides of the question are discussed; where mountains are not made out of mole hills. Neither are there any rabbits drawn out of the magic hat. It is a friendly, co-operative business conference where problems in common are analyzed from a practical, friendly business viewpoint.

Men have become more tolerant; their business horizon extended, their self-centered balloon punctured as the result of the Joint Conference sessions. The Joint Conference is like the double-edged sword, it cuts both ways—through business and through agriculture alike—for the benefit of all; but as the late Walter Bishop said, "Not for the personal, political or financial advancement of anyone."

First **Blue Labels** for 1945 crop appeared on the Williamsport, Renovo and Hegins market the week of August 13. The size and quality of potatoes was very acceptable and the price well within the market for the area. To W. E. Eshelman, Manager of Twin Valley Farmers Exchange, Hegins; William W. Hayes, Jersey Shore; Phil and Edgar Antes, Williamsport; and Louis Zundel of Galeton, go the distinctive honor of "getting going" early this season.

A Potato Picking "Champ"

F.F.A. BOY OF SOMERSET COUNTY

Gordon Hay, Berlin, Somerset County, being congratulated by Association Secretary Wuesthoff

Potato picking honors have again returned to Somerset county through the ability, skill and energy of Gordon Hay, Berlin, Pennsylvania. Gordon is a very active member of the Future Farmers organization and lived up to the high tradition of his organization in that whatever is attempted is seen through to a successful close.

The contest itself was conducted under fairly good picking conditions, in two heats and a final. The first heat included the "best bet" of five different F.F.A. Chapters, the second heat included our champion of long standing, Mahlon King, of Chester county, together with three local "champs" from Cambria county, including two women from Paul Yahner's crew. The women contestants brought to mind the 1940 and 1941 champion, Mabel Wrestley, of Boswell, Somserset County. The final included the winners of previous heat. Messrs. King and Hay were "nip and tuck" to the very finish line when Mr. King had the misfortune of spilling his basket. The 100 pounds of potatoes were picked and sacked within two minutes and fifteen seconds and was really done to the consternation and thrill of all spectators whose interest was most keen.

Before the 1945 harvesting season is over many predict that Gordon Hay will be forced to defend his position as Champion many times.

NEEDED: Better Farmer-Labor-Distributor Relations

Determined to carry forward a broad general program of better farmer-labor-distributor relations, the Council of Food Producer Organizations, representing thousands of food producers throughout the Eastern United States, was organized July 2, in Philadelphia—the birthplace of American Independence.

First and foremost in the minds of the organizers was the double task immediately ahead: (1) stopping the enforced unionization of drivers of farm trucks by city unions, and (2) abolition of the 5-day (Monday to Friday) week in wholesale produce terminals.

Creation of the Council followed six weeks of intensive organizing by the General Committee from 20 farm organizations of 10 Eastern states, representing fruit growers, vegetable growers, dairymen and poultrymen, who had performed yeoman service to the industry since President Goldberg of the Philadelphia Teamsters Union served notice that no trucks coming into the Philadelphia markets would be unloaded unless driven by a union driver, or the producer or his son.

The Council is an "organization of farm organizations" and has as its head Phil G. Turner, well-known Maryland farm leader, president and manager; Mr. Turner will be assisted by C. E. Wise, Jr., and a temporary board of directors including Lionel Newcomer, Fleetwood, Pennsylvania; Kenneth B. Floyd, King Ferry, New York; C. William Haines, Masonville, New Jersey; E. Blackburn Moore, Winchester, Virginia; David C. Clark, Milford, Connecticut; and Carroll R. Miller, Martinsburg, West Virginia.

In a broad, general sense, the Council of Food Producer Organizations has as its purpose "to maintain free production and movement of food; to insure the right of free markets for food; to secure unobstructed production, transportation and distribution of food; and to foster proper farmer-laborer relations."

Never before in the history of the horticultural or agricultural industry have such far-reaching problems been faced. Farmers and fruit growers are not opposed to unions through prejudice or just because of the word union; neither are they opposed to the 40-hour work week just because it seems like wasting a lot of valuable time. But the farmer has long since come to know that no man-made restriction can be operative in the apple orchard, potato field or corn patch.

The reasons which compel farmers to take their stand are logical, basically sound, historically true and factually based on the fundamental laws of nature.

Unions are basically formed and have their being through a fixed order. Unions have strong local organizations which bargain for the services of their members and contract hours of work, rate of pay, services to be delivered, etc. The union agrees to furnish the manpower necessary to run the assembly line of industry. But in agriculture there is no assembly line, hence, there can be no fixed contract for hours or services. For example, in case of a strike, the manufacturer can shut down his plant and leave his machinery idle. But not so with the farmer—Mother Nature doesn't wait for time, tide—or workers. Fruits and vegetables must be harvested when ready. Unions must carefully regard this principle and in so doing under no conditions attempt to unionize agriculture until they have developed an "agricultural union program" which would basically embody every law of nature entering into food production.

This nation was built upon the principle of the self-determination of peoples. Had it not been for this principle, the down-trodden urban worker would have never darkened the door of a union hall. This principle of self-determination gave to Americans the privilege of individual initiative which has resulted in industrialization to the point where 40 hours of labor in factories will produce sufficient quantities of essential goods.

But, too, let no one lose sight of the fact that Nature has always taken advantage of the principle of self-determination through storms, sunshine, rain, hail, freezes and all the factors which go to make up the weather which produces the food upon which mankind subsists. Nature cannot fit into that pattern fixed hours of work.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

RURAL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

CHAPEL

WILLIAMSPORT DICKINSON JUNIOR COLLEGE

WILLIAMSPORT, PA.

AUGUST 20, 21, 1945

SPONSORS

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE

BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

and

PENNSYLVANIA CHAIN STORE COUNCIL

808 LIBERTY TRUST BUILDING

Philadelphia, Pa.

EDITOR:—It is interesting to note that this Rural Leadership Conference is an outgrowth of several discussion groups held last spring by and under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association. Meetings at York, Corry, Jennerstown all brought out the fact that some one, individuals as well as groups, must take up the torch and strive to bring about an awakening in the spiritual and economic life of Rural Pennsylvania. These conferences and discussion groups are definite steps in the right direction.

It was our privilege to attend this conference of religious leaders and business representatives. This joint conference was the first of its kind and its over all reaction would preclude that more would be called regardless of denominations.

The purpose of the conference as explained by Fred W. Johnson, President of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council in his introductory remarks was "to examine into various practical means of encouraging wider interest in farm problems on community levels, by bringing to the common effort the cooperating participation of various groups of long experience in this vitally essential field of our national life."

Most Pennsylvania Potato Growers are familiar with the untiring efforts Mr. Johnson has put into the **potato marketing plan** to the end that city and country pull together in a **friendly, practical, workable** business relationship. With our **Potato Growers** — it works. It is fitting that a wider application of the principle might be at least looked into.

Dr. "Pat" McConnell, Boston University, School of Theology, gave a soul stirring address. He placed such significance on the day and the time that it might be called appropriately enough — **Year One.** The destiny of the human race will be settled back in the country cross-roads. This is a significant and appropriate beginning, he said. One cannot attempt to sermonize all that was said by the speakers at this conference.

The following formally participated with considerable informal discussion between sessions.

"The Church at Work with Agriculture and Business"
Dr. C. M. McConnell, Boston University, School of Theology, Boston.

"Why We Work with Agriculture"
Fred W. Johnson, President, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, Philadelphia.

"Agriculture—The Foundation of American Economics"
C. E. Noyes, Executive Secretary, Community Trade Assn., Williamsport.

"Leadership in Agriculture"
Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, Philadelphia.

"What Distribution Can Do for Agriculture"
Earl French, Atlantic Commission Co., New York City, N. Y.
Lee Rummell, Kroger Grocery and Baking Company, Cincinnati, Ohio.

"Why We Work with Business"
Roland N. Benjamin, Executive Secretary, Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-operative, Harrisburg.

"At Work in a Country Parish"
John Howes, Conference Rural Worker, Town Hill, Penna.

"Forward Together"
Dutton Peterson, Rural Pastor, Odessa, N. Y.

Chairmen of the various sessions were:

F. Carter Schaub, General Manager, Philadelphia Control Store, Sears Roebuck and Company.

POTATO CROP IMPROVES

F. La Monte Henninger, Chairman, Central Penna. Conference Board of Education of the Methodist Church, Carlisle, Pa.

Wayne Churchill, Jr., Director of Purchases, The Great A & P Tea Co., Philadelphia.

E. C. Keboch, Executive Secretary, Board of Education, Central Pennsylvania Conference of the Methodist Church, Harrisburg.

Richard W. Campbell, Chairman, Rural Leadership Committee of the Central Penna. Conference, Board of Education of the Methodist Church.

Co-Chairmen of the Conference were: E. C. Keboch and Loyal D. Odhner.

Some of the significant statements uttered in the conference which need little explanation are:

That the church has a definite obligation toward rural development spiritually and economically.

That Business and Religion have a common ground upon which both can build for moral and material uplift.

That "Poverty makes no Investment" in religious or economical life of a community.

That a "Prosperous Communtiy makes a Happy Community."

That a new morale needs to be built to get farm folk out of the doldrums of self pity.

That Farmers and Rural People must stop apologizing for being Country folks.

That preachers must stop thinking of a rural parish as a place of "exile" or a Siberia.

That Rural Leadership training schools must be established.

That the Rural Church needs a Rural Program.

That there must be a more stable economic basis for Rural Ministers.

That a new world morale, dependent upon an appreciation of Rural Life and Life on the Soil, was necessary.

That Co-operation and Co-operatives have a definite place in Rural Life.

That the Rural Problem is not only a problem of the Country but one of the City as well. The Country Church and the City Church are one—definitely interdependent.

That all rural workers and city workers must come to recognize **The Spirit and the Power.**

A potato crop of 420,206,000 bushels is **indicated** for the Nation as prospective production improved about 12 million bushels in July. Only in 1928 and 1943, when production amounted to 427,249,000 and 464,999,000 bushels respectively, has the crop now in prospect been exceeded. A U. S. yield of 147.7 bushels is in prospect. The yield of 139.6 bushels produced in 1943 is the previous record high.

For the eighteen surplus late States, a crop of 291,641,000 bushels is in prospect, compared with 271,479,000 bushels in 1944 and the 10-year average of 257,604,000 bushels. Prospects in these states improved about eight and one-third million bushels in July.

PRODUCTION (1000 Bu.)

STATE	Average 1934-43	1944	Aug. 1 1945
New Jersey	9,633	8,804	13,104
Maine	46,102	53,868	59,080
New York	28,595	26,445	31,070
PENNA.	22,318	19,140	17,360
Eastern Late States	106,648	108,257	120,614
Central Late States	86,138	72,223	72,310

The PENNSYLVANIA potato crop showed a slight decrease in condition during July. In the West along the Ohio line and in the northwest weather was dry with only a few showers near the end of the month. Elsewhere in the State July rainfall and hot, humid weather promoted vine growth. The long period of wet weather prevented spraying and cultivating. In the Potter plateau area late stands are poor and with the wet weather during most of the month blight was imminent. Lehigh-Northampton area growers encountered much difficulty and many interruptions to their spray program. Two storms, one on July 9 and the other on July 26, were accompanied by heavy hail, stripping plants in some localities. Flooded streams badly washed some fields when they overflowed their banks and many other fields were badly gullied. Crops on gravel soil are good due to better drainage. Rot has been found in some of the early varieties being dug now. Blight is heavy in some sections of the area. In the southeastern counties foliage on late potatoes is generally heavy but three weeks of rainy weather prevented proper spraying and insects have secured a foothold.

Field Meetings

August 16th and 17th

Erie County

The Field Day and Program at the farm of Ivan Miller, Corry, R.D., was well attended, Thursday, August 16. Over 200 interested growers from east, west, north and south attended to see what Erie County growers are doing. Eight counties and four states were represented. Forty acres of Camp Potato seedlings were inspected and studied under the guidance of Dr. E. L. Nixon. Storages at A. C. Harwood's, Wattsburg and at Miller's were examined; regular fields of A. C. Harwood's, Ivan Miller and Linn Sill were observed. The total acreage on three farms was well over 900 acres, which had decidedly good prospects for a good crop. Some fields were down, making potatoes and other fields look as though they were in their prime. Stands, set, blossoms and all were a revelation. The most **beautiful** field of 90 acres was in full blossom on the Linn Sill farm—A finer sight some of us never expect to witness soon again.

A splendid dinner was served by the Communities' Church. Director Dodd, Dr. Nixon and Secretary Wuesthoff spoke concerning the Associations plans and aspirations for the coming season.

Cambria County

Windber meeting for Potato Growers of the area was well attended with Jos. Fisher, our new area manager, acting as host. Six "Camp Potato" Seedlings were studied. It was agreed that five of the six were most desirable and most promising for the area which needs a new adapted white skin potato variety. Dr. Nixon, Agriculture Counselor for the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, P. Daniel Frantz, Association Sales Manager and C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Association Secretary and Treasurer spent the afternoon in outlining plans for this season's marketing program. A demonstration on the grading and packaging of Blue Label Potatoes concluded the program. Director Lohr and Manager Fisher conducted this worthwhile meeting of interested growers. Many Life Memberships and regular memberships were sold.

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A FEW IRRIGATED PRODUCTION RESULTS:

Potatoes	**587 Bushels per acre.**
Dried Tobacco	**2512 Pounds per acre.**
Snap Beans	**7 Tons per acre.**
Tomatoes	**17 Tons per acre.**
Peas	**4 Tons per acre.**
Alfalfa	**5 Cuttings per year.**

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THE "PRICE SUPPORT" PROGRAM

Bruce Whitenight, U. S. D. A., Harrisburg, Pa.

The Agricultural Adjustment Agency has again been asked to assist potato producers in receiving a return for their entire crop at not less than 90 per cent of parity. The State Committee has already held a meeting with its State Potato Committee which is acting in an advisory capacity to the State Committee.

The responsibilities of this committee are:

1. To encourage orderly marketing through normal channels.
2. To assist with diversion programs and help to develop additional outlets for surplus potatoes.
3. To recommend fair schedule of marketing charges.
4. To certify dealers who agree to pay not less than support price for all potatoes they purchase.
5. To arrange for adequate inspection service.
6. To recommend period of price support by purchase for the intermediate crop.
7. To estimate the probable grades of potatoes produced by areas; and
8. To inform potato growers and dealers the provisions of the program.

The program now outlined for 1945 intermediate and late potatoes is as follows:

INTERMEDIATE POTATOES

Producers will be assured 90 per cent of parity or better for their entire lot when sold through certified dealers or to the U. S. Department of Agriculture. The Government activity through the Office of Supply will consist of purchase and diversion programs. Purchases will be made from growers, associations of farmers and certified dealers.

The support prices as announced on May 18 by the U. S. Department of Agriculture for intermediate potatoes are as follows:

BASIC PRICES—100 Lb. UNITS

Grade	*Aug.*	*Sept.*
(All varieties)		
U. S. No. 1	$2.15	$2.15
U. S. Commercial	1.75	1.75
U. S. No. 1 Size B	1.07½	1.07½
U. S. No. 2*	1.07½	1.07½

* 1⅞ inches minimum.

Approved deductions from basic prices when dealer performs the applicable service:

1. Grading and Packing	$.08
2. Sacks—New (Uniform and Renovated)	.15
—Used (Not Uniform or Renovated)	.05
3. Transportation (10-mile limit) (¼c per mile per cwt. for each additional mile hauled)	.05
4. Loading and Inspection	.04
5. Selling	.05
Deduction Total per Cwt.	$.42

Under the new program the farmer will be required to offer all official grades of potatoes in a given lot if he desires support on any of the potatoes in the lot. In previous programs the top grade had been sorted out and sold, and only the lower grades offered. The purpose of requiring the entire lot of potatoes to be offered to the Office of Supply whenever the lower grades are offered is to insure producers a return of not less than 90 per cent of parity on their entire crop and prevent the misuse of the program which occurred in some areas last year.

To effect this, producers offering U. S. No. 1, Size B and U. S. No. 2 grade potatoes to the Office of Supply for support will also be required to offer all the better grades in the same lot to the Office of Supply, and to certify that the potatoes offered represent all the potatoes in said lot. Likewise, certified dealers offering U. S. No. 1, Size B and U. S. No. 2 grade potatoes to the Office of Supply under the support program will be required to offer a fixed proportion of the better grades. Prices paid to producers, associations of producers and certified dealers offering potatoes to the Office of Supply under this support program will be at the basic prices less any applicable deductions for each of the above 4 grades in any given lot. However, a certified dealer in making purchases from producers is required to pay the basic prices less any approved deductions for the two better grades of potatoes (U. S. No. 1 and U. S. Commercials). A certified dealer may pay prices lower than the basic price, less approved deductions, for U. S. No. 1, Size B and U. S. No. 2 grades provided the

Continued on page twenty-six

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of The Guide Post

G. L. Blough, Potter
Aaron Hartzel, Crawford
Russell Daily, Ohio
G. Clarence Griffith, Cambria
H. R. Gulliver, Columbia
Blaine Mandell, Luzerne
W. B. Schlag, Allegheny
George Gregor, Erie
John K. Graham, Ohio
Morgan Yonkin, Sullivan
Lee Smeltzer, Centre
Walter Buss, Northampton
Wheeler Smith, Luzerne
George Hellick, Northampton
Betty Jean Christman, Monroe
Meade G. Long, Warren
Clair Halstead, Butler
Merl Davis, Columbia
Francis Way, Potter
St. Thomas F.F.A., Franklin
C. N. Parkinson, Columbia
Forest Wessner, Lehigh
Valentine King, Chester
Robert Hanck, Schuylkill
Hillard K. Seitz, York
Paul Lesko, Carbon
L. Leon Myers, Jr., Indiana
John Reed, Schuylkill
A. B. C. Groff, Lancaster
Charles Snavely, Ohio
W. S. Wetzel, Indiana
C. O. McCandless, Butler
David W. Cook, Clarion
E. B. Bower, Centre
Winslow Chip Company, Mass.
Ed Gallant, Erie
Edison Groh, Maryland
Mrs. David L. Ott, Delaware
Stanley Hess, Northampton
James Baird, Clinton
G. H. Shellito, Ohio
Alton Miller, Erie
S. I. Miller, Cambria
C. C. Winans, Warren
Path Valley F.F.A., Franklin
B. A. Rockwell, Dauphin
Chambersburg F.F.A., Franklin
Gilbert Beaver, Perry
Fred A. German, Lehigh
Charles F. Karick, Northumberland
Curtis Shadle, Schuylkill
Joseph Workinger, York
John R. Weaver, Clearfield
Henry A. Gruber, Lehigh
Stoney Creek F.F.A., Somerset
J. Edward May, Erie
Harry L. Phillips, Clarion
Leo Farabaugh, Cambria
A. J. Webb, Erie
Ronald Webb, Erie
M. A. McNulty, Cambria
J. Ellis Harriger, Clarion
D. L. Bowen, Venango
Vernon Perrin, Warren
John G. Johnson, Luzerne
Ben J. Weaver, Erie
George Schey, Luzerne
Francis Howard, Potter
Raymond Smoker, Chester
R. J. Wigton, Huntingdon
Ray Troutman, Schuylkill
Paul W. Erhard, Potter
Rex Haagen, Indiana
Charles E. Young, Clearfield
Samuel P. Chalfant, Chester
Paul Blakeslee, Erie
John Sill, Erie
Earl Webb, Erie
C. E. Flinchbaugh, York
Dale Martin, Ohio
Allison G. Pell, Erie
Stanley M. Sallade, Potter
Brothers Valley F.F.A., Somerset
H. M. Cowan, Ohio
Ammon Stoltzfus, Chester
Raymond Kauffman, Chester
Irvin Artz, Schuylkill
Norman E. Schneck, Lehigh
W. H. Gregory, Carbon
Harry Martin, York
Allen Prince, Potter
Clayton Troyer, Erie
Herbert K. Dries, Berks

"Price Support" Program

Continued from page twenty-two

total amount paid for any lot of potatoes is not less than could have been obtained had the producers received the basic price, less applicable approved deductions, for the total amount of each grade of potatoes contained in the lot.

LATE POTATOES

The support program for late potatoes takes the form of a loan program. This type of program has been used by producers and dealers successfully on the late crop for the past several years and will be similar to previous programs.

BASIC PRICES

Grade	*Sept.*	*Oct.*	*Nov.*	*Dec.*
All varieties	$2.15	$2.20	$2.30	$2.40

Loans will be made at a rate somewhat below the support price as in prior years. The basic prices are for potatoes graded, sacked and loaded on cars. Specified amounts for each of these services will be established to determine the applicable support price in those cases where the producer does not perform these services. Loan rates will not reflect the full support price, but, producers delivering potatoes in satisfaction of loans will be credited at the applicable support price for all deliveries made.

However, in order to receive support prices under the program it will be necessary to offer all of the marketable grades of potatoes in a given lot. Potatoes from which the top grades have been removed will **not** be eligible for support.

Order Bags—Now

The Paper Bag situation is just as uncertain as ever. We suggest and urge growers to order their season supply at once. In some cases it may take fully thirty to sixty days to make deliveries.

Get those orders placed and state the time desired and we will try our best to have shipment made promptly. Prices have not changed in four years.—C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary-Treasurer, Central Office, Williamsport.

ANNOUNCING

THE GRAND OPENING

of the

Conyngham Valley Farmer's Exchange

at Sybertsville, Pa.

HAROLD WELSH, Prop.

Wednesday, September 19, 1945

Afternoon and Evening Meetings

Potato Storage—200 feet x 47 feet
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(Servicing and Repairing)
General Farm Hardware and Farm Supplies
Cuprinol Wood Preservative for all Farm Uses

PROGRAM OF SPEAKERS

(Afternoon)

J. D. Hutchinson—County Agent

Dr. E. L. Nixon—Counselor, Penna. Chain Store Council

(Evening)

C. F. H. Wuesthoff — Secretary-Treasurer-Manager, Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc.

R. B. Donaldson—Extension Service, Pennsylvania State College

Mr. Bamer—State College

LIFE MEMBERS

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Somerset
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Homer C. Bartter, Ohio
Walter H. Schlegel, Northampton
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Haskell Kunes, Clearfield
D. E. Lewis, West Virginia
Paul R. Yoder, Chester
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Andy Boleratz, Erie
Foster Blough, Potter
Norman C. Strohl, Carbon
Wilmer Mensch, Columbia
Karl Uffelman, Dauphin
Walter Gibbons, Lancaster
Lynn Sill, Erie
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
V. A. Holtz, Cambria
Joseph Fisher, Somerset
Oscar Lauger, Warren
W. R. Campbell, West Virginia
A. J. Troyer, Ohio
A. C. Harwood, Erie
Harvey S. Lute, Cambria
George D. Henninger, Northampton
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
Leon Epler, Northumberland
R. B. Stutzman, Indiana
E. S. Grim, Franklin
McPherson Bros., York
Harry Stockdale, Ohio
Elvin R. Huntsinger, Schuylkill
Dr. A. S. Romberger, Illinois
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Ralph Miller & Sons, Lehigh
W. C. Leofsky, Warren
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Ralph Hertzler, Chester
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Ralph A. Thompson, New York
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Roy B. Hoober, Lancaster
Douglas Fisher, Potter
Mathias C. Whitenight, Columbia

AAA Abolished and New Agency is Set Up

The agricultural adjustment Administration—early New Deal organization which began by paying cash benefits to farmers for plowing under cotton and for killing fowl and little pigs, then later spearheaded the government's wartime drive to increase food production—passed into history last week.

It was dropped from the government rolls to make way for a reorganization of the Agriculture Department announced by Secretary Clinton P. Anderson.

A new streamlined agency—the Production and Marketing Administration—having broad powers to co-ordinate future governmental programs affecting the production, pricing and marketing for products, takes up where triple A leaves off.

Its powers and functions will include that of the AAA as well as a number of other departments and offices. The thousands of local and state triple A committees were retained and will act as agents of the new Production and Marketing Administration.

Secretary Anderson said the purpose of the new agency is to establish a "clear line of authority" on programs affecting the principal farm commodities, including dairy and poultry products and fruits and vegetables.

The agency will take over more than a dozen offices and other agencies, including the Office of Basic Commodities, the Office of Supply, the Office of Marketing Services, the offices of manager and secretary of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, the Office of Requirements and Allocations and the Office of Materials and Facilities.

The new administration will be headed by Agriculture Undersecretary J. B. Hutson.

Will potatoes be to Secretary Anderson what eggs were last year to Marvin Jones? Mr. Anderson recently stated that he was buying more potatoes than he cared to think about at support price levels. In the meantime the information division at USDA is issuing some first class promotional material to stimulate sale and use of potatoes. Campaigns of this kind, like all advertising, pay dividends and it is to the advantage of the produce distributor to put his shoulder to the wheel. In fact it is a swell opportunity for the distributive trade to brush up on salesmanship which has been considerably dulled during the lush war markets.

In addition to efforts to push potatoes in consumer markets, the Army is requested to increase their use of potatoes. A dehydration program for human food is contemplated and the better grades will be placed in cold storage to some extent. Some supplies will be used by whiskey distillers for blending purposes and industrial starch plants may be expected to increase their use of potatoes sharply.

Although potato prices are hanging at support price levels in most markets there is no need for despair. Some good old-fashioned hard work with the shirt sleeves rolled up can turn a sick market into a brisk one.

The extraordinary potato outturn points out one of the inherent weaknesses of support price operations and acreage control. This year with a decreased acreage present indications are that we will have a potato crop of approximately 420,000,000 bushels. The increase is directly attributable to higher yields per acre. As acreage restrictions are imposed as a consequence of support price guarantees, alert commercial producers are likely to use fertilizer to a greater extent to bring out maximum production. Under war restrictions farm producers have learned better fertilizer practices and this knowledge is not likely to be forgotten. Higher yields per acre are bound to pose problems for USDA economists. —(Courtesy, The N. Y. Packer).

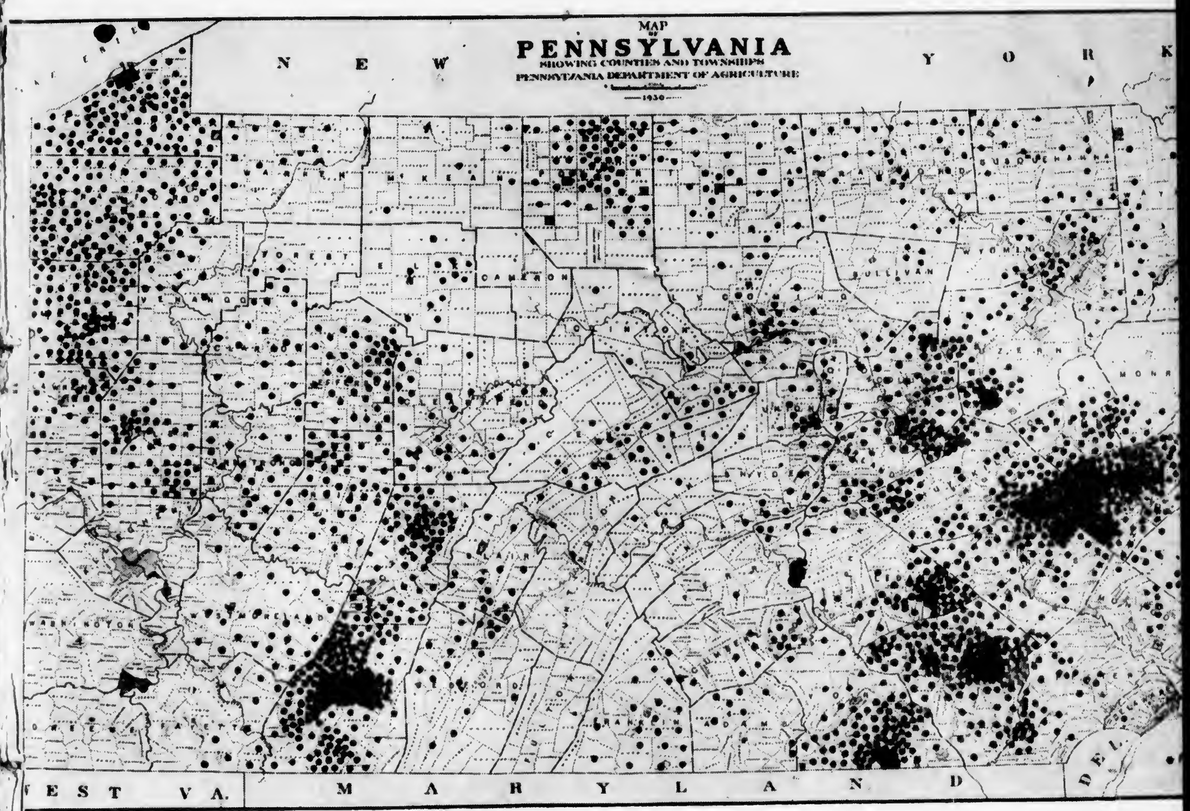
A buck private and his girl were riding out in the country on horseback. As they stopped for a rest, the two horses rubbed necks affectionately.

"Ah, me," sighed the private, "that's what I'd like to do."

"Well, go ahead," answered the girl, "it's your horse."

The GUIDE POST

VISION — PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS



PENNSYLVANIA'S POTATO PRODUCING AREAS

SEPTEMBER — 1945

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Volume XXII **September, 1945** **Number 9**

NEWS AND VIEWS:

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

Vacation time is over and the youngters are back in school.

I wonder how many farmers and especially potato growers had a "vacation."

It seems to me that I have seen potato growers doing more hard work this summer than ever before. This was partly due to an adverse potato year from the very start of the season—on through to the end. It seems to be a fact also that labor is actually harder to procure than ever before, in most areas.

Ponder over the fact that some growers made eighteen spray applications; that the Pocono region had an all time rainfall record; that Mr. A. C. Ramseyer approached an all time potato drouth; and Pennsylvania had areas representing every stage between these two extremes.

Northwestern Pennsylvania had the most ideal potato weather. Potter county area ended up in a very critical dry spell. I have never seen a season before in which potatoes died so "suddenly."

The chief complaints with most groware "light set."

York County seems to have the worst epidemic of late blight rot. It may show

up later in other areas.

By and large Pennsylvania will have a very good quality crop.

The low state yield — probably the lowest on record — came about by the almost complete failure of the "farm patches" which constitute better than half of the total acreage.

A farmer came in the other day and said, "I planted thirty bushels of certified seed and dug twenty-eight bushels."

On August 28 Ed Fisher, our sons and Dick Mansfield spent a long day up in Steuben County, New York — Little Aroostook. I was really amazed at the transformation which has occurred up there. I remember when the hills up there had potato patches occasionally here and there on their tops; now the rows run in every direction, up and down incorporating the sides as well as the tops.

It was reported that the crop died early and suddenly up there; that insect infestations, leaf hoppers, and flea beetles, were never worse. Steuben County seems to be experimenting with the "brush broom" type of spray broom. Based on the evidence, it is unsuccessful. When sprayers leave a trail of mist like dusters they are no more effective than dusters. "Little Aroostook" will have a lot of potatoes. They are doing many thing extremely well.

The rest of the week of August the 27th was spent in selecting some of the best seedling varieties at Camp Potato, and there were some indicating powerful promising possibilities — three hills weighed 10 pounds.

We still have two varieties which again this year show no "ring rot" rot, even though purposely contaminated.

The week of September the 10th I spent at Camp Potato digging early maturing seedling varieties.

HU 23 ME is coming through at the Camp with flying colors.

Mr. Penny of Wellsboro came over one day and assisted in digging the tuber unit progeny. He observed that this is indeed a phenomenal potato; 98 percent of the tubers actually making **Blue Labels** and doing it in **83 days** — planted June 21 and dug Sept. 12. The progeny of many single tubers (4 and 6 hills) weighed 9 pounds and up.

Anyway it buoys one up—it makes one think there is no excellence without great labor.

POWER SHAFT SHIELDS

by C. L. Hamilton, Agricultural Engineer, National Safety Council

Picture yourself caught in the whirling power take-off drive from your tractor with nobody around to shut off the power. It could happen if you were to slip or fall against the power shaft when the shield is removed. It could

happen when you are in a hurry and step over or near the exposed shaft—without intending to be the least bit careless. If your clothing merely flops against a revolving shaft or coupling, you can be drawn in without warning.

But you need not be hurt. Farm machinery manufacturers furnish convenient shielding for power drive shafts. All you have to do is keep it in place. Farmers who fail to use shields simply gamble with death. The stakes are high, and when you lose it is too late to mend your ways. Always keep the odds in your favor by using safety shields.

Development of Power Take-Off

About 20 years ago, the power take-off, which is simply an extended transmission shaft, was added to farm tractors. It was developed to meet the needs for driving the rotating and oscillating parts of grain binders directly from the tractor. Previously, tractor power was utilized through the drawbar or from the belt pulley.

This new method of transmitting tractor power to farm implements proved so successful it was extended to a large number of implements such as combines, corn pickers, mowers, ensilage harvesters, manure spreaders, *potato diggers*, hay balers, rotary tillers and other farm implements. The number of power take-off hitches multiplied as the number of tractor models and power-driven implements increased, until the confusion and inconvenience of so many different devices made standardization necessary.

Manufacturers Provide Standard Shielding

Recognizing the need for simpler and safer power shaft hitches, the American Society of Agricultural Engineers developed standard specifications for the power take-off shaft, master shield, and drawbar hitch point. Practically all manufacturers of farm machinery have adopted these standards for recent models of tractors and power-driven implements. In addition, manufacturers have made it possible to convert most of the older tractors and machines to the standard.

When tractors and power-driven implements are built to A.S.A.E. standards or converted to them, it is possible to use any make and kind of power-driven implement with any make and model of tractor. The advantage of this standardization is obvious. Besides safer and easier shielding of the power shaft, hitches can be fitted together without delay and hazardous home-made hook-ups are unnecessary. Standardization also means economy because it is no longer necessary to get a new hitch for every implement on the farm when changing to a new model tractor.

The Farmer's Responsibility

Farmers who do not have correct hitches or shields should consult their local implement dealer. Hitches and adapter packages for power-driven implements may be obtained from dealers representing the manufacturer of the implement. The adapter package or parts necessary to convert a tractor to A.S.A.E. standard dimensions may be obtained from dealers handling that make of tractor. Farm machinery dealers have complete instructions on standard hitches and the adapter or conversion package farmers may need.

The best shield that can be made gives no protection if it is not used. An operator who fails to use safety shields provided for power-driven shafts is responsible for any injuries or deaths that occur. There is no adequate excuse for not keeping shields in place. It is much easier to be safe than sorry.

Safety is usually neglected in the development of homemade power-driven attachments for tractors. Shielding this type of equipment for safety is a special problem that each user must solve individually. Remember always: No piece of farm machinery is complete until adequate shielding of all power drives is provided.

Accidents that strike the farm
Do much more than local harm.
So take care with every chore;
Farm crops helped to win the war.

— Blue Label Movement —

Southeastern Area	111,551 Peck Equivalents
Northeastern Area	89,927 Peck Equivalents
Northwestern Area	50,995 Peck Equivalents
Southwestern Area	52,810 Peck Equivalents
North Central Area	6,000 Peck Equivalents
Total to September 19	311,283 Peck Equivalents

The Potato and Good Nutrition

Potatoes Are Native Americans

The potato is a typical American vegetable. It was cultivated in South America as early as 200 A.D. Spanish explorers took specimens back to Spain in 1572. From South America potato cultivation spread north and English discoverers found them being grown by the American Indians. England got it first taste of potatoes when one of Sir Walter Raleigh's ships carried back a cargo of the vegetable in 1556.

The potato belongs to the interesting botanical family, the nightshade. Other members are the plant which produces the drug belladonna, tobacco, and the vegetables tomato, eggplant and red pepper.

When first introduced into Europe, many people believed the potato to possess poisonous qualities; therefore, it did not come into general use until this feeling was overcome in the latter half of the 18th century.

More Valuable Than Silver or Gold

Little did the early Spanish explorers imagine that the unimportant-looking tubers they found the natives cultivating would one day prove more valuable than all the precious metals they fought to win. The potato, as developed by cultivation, produces more food per acre than any other crop. Yields of 200 to 300 bushels per acre are fairly common and record yields have reached 1,000 bushels! The money value of the annual crop of about 5,000,000,000 bushels far exceeds the annual production of silver and gold!

Are We Heavy Potato Eaters?

The per capita annual consumption of potatoes in the United States for the years 1934-37 is given by the U. S. Department of Agriculture as 157 pounds. This seems a very substantial amount until it is compared with potato consumption in Europe, where the figure reaches 358 pounds per person, in some countries. Crowded populations and the necessity for raising food crops giving a high yield is partly responsible for this figure. But potato consumption would never have reached and stayed at such levels had racial experience not proven their value as a food.

Are Potatoes Fattening?

Certain concentrated, high caloric foods, such as sugar, fats and highly-milled cereals are often placed on the forbidden list for people concerned with weight control. A glance at a few facts will show the error of including potatoes on this list. The fact that potatoes are 75% water should immediately remove them from the list of concentrated foods. A good big baked potato, with that satisfying whole meal bulk, will furnish just about 200 calories. Compare its nutritive value and bulk, so important to dieters, with some other 200-calorie foods—3 tablespoons heavy cream, 2 tablespoons mayonnaise, or two pieces of candy.

There is truth in the saying that it isn't the potato which is fattening, it's what you put on it! The rich brown gravy or too generous hand with the butter are the danger points for expanding waist lines.

The Nutritive Value

Science has now given us the reasons why potatoes have proven such a successful food. Before noting what these nutritive values are, there is one preliminary point that should be mentioned. That is the *availability* of the food materials shown in food composition charts. Sometimes foodstuffs seem to be locked up in a chemical combination or surrounded by indigestible cellulose in such a way that the body cannot release and use them. Such nutrients are said to be biologically unavailable. For example, the carbohydrates of string beans and cabbage are less than one-sixth available. In sharp contrast to this, the carbohydrates of a potato is nearly 100% available and used by the body.

Potato Substitutes?

Spaghetti, macaroni and white rice are sometimes erroneously thought of as substitutes for potatoes. These foods have their place in the diet as energy producers and as "extenders" or "carriers" of more highly flavored and expensive foods such as meat, fish and cheese. But it is a mistake to think of them as fulfilling the same functions as potatoes in the diet. True, their bland flavor and richness as a source of energy seems to class them with potatoes. But the similarity ends there, for these cereal foods lack the potato's neutralizing alkalinity, regulating bulk, iron and vitamins. This difference is especially important to remember in the diets of young children where every food served must make its contribution toward the other nutritional needs, as well as furnishing energy.

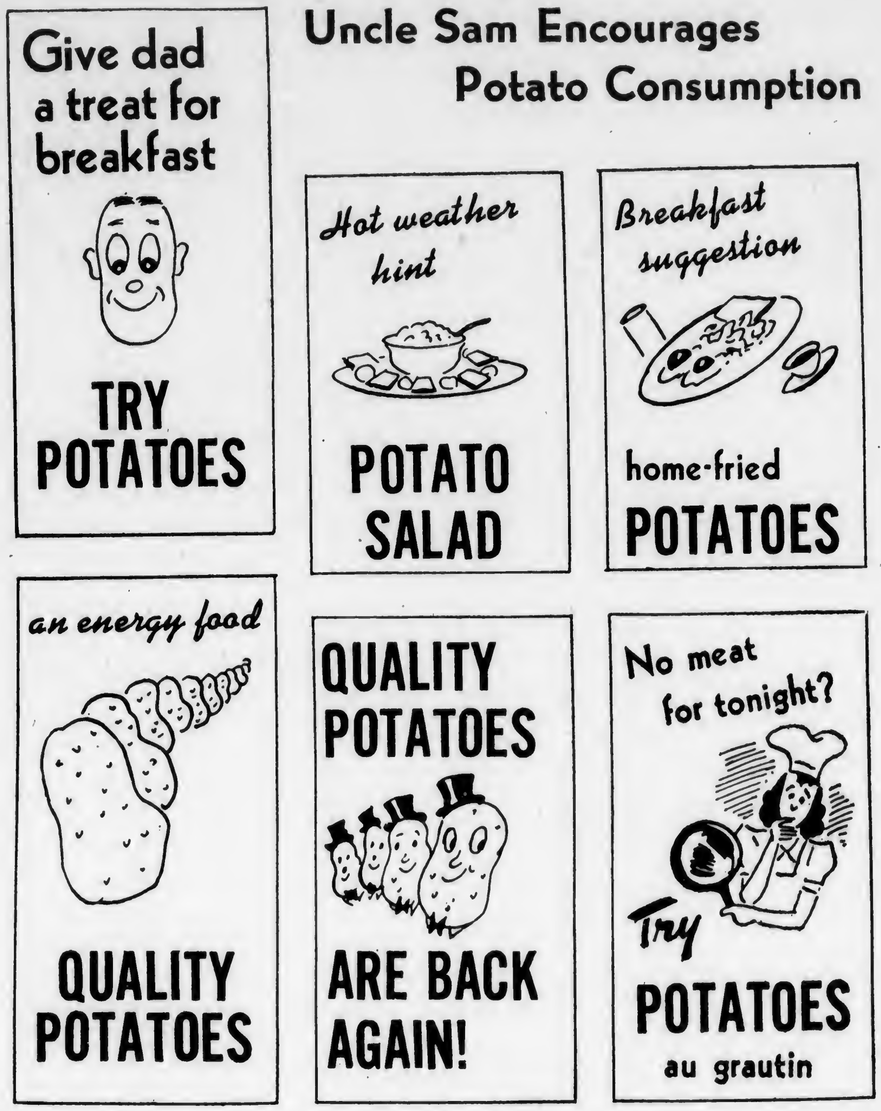
Nutritive Value and Cost

Buying healthful food is comparatively easy on an unlimited purse, but the more limited the food budget, the more difficult it is to furnish all the elements the body needs.

How do potatoes rate as an economical source of the required nutrients? Stiebeling and Clark in the 1939 Yearbook of Agriculture, Food and Life, have classified the common foods into 12 major groups of similar foods. Then they have rated them according to the contributions each group makes, to each of 8 important nutritive needs, for an expenditure of 5 cents. Potatoes, white and sweet, show up on this chart as

Continued on page twenty

Uncle Sam Encourages Potato Consumption



— Poster Suggestions —

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA
F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE—▼—LABEL—

Growers and Distributors

We would call your attention to the definite location and establishment of the Association's Sales Offices, for the purpose of facilitating increased packing and marketing of Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes. Growers and buyers in need of assistance and supplies are urged to contact their nearest office.

Northeastern Area—
Roy R. Hess, Manager
Stillwater, Penna.
Phone—Benton 34R14

Southeastern Area—
Hiram A. Frantz, Manager
702 N. Eighth Street
Allentown, Penna.
Phone—Allentown 3-1765

Southwestern Area—
Joseph H. Fisher, Manager
611 Swank Building
Johnstown, Penna.
Phone—Johnstown 82271

Northwestern Area—
J. M. Hindman, Manager
11½ Gardner Building
Union City, Penna.
Phone—Union City 200

North Central Area—
Richard Mansfield, Manager
207 Main Street
Coudersport, Penna.
Phone—560

—BLUE—▼—LABEL—

1945 Refresher Schools

Your association appreciates the fact that competition in potato marketing will be most keen, therefore a series of grading and packaging schools will be conducted this fall. Official association inspectors will be called together so that they may become thoroughly acquainted with up to the minute requirements necessary to secure and maintain our markets. Uniformity of grade and package will be essential if co-operating buyers and consumers are to be supplied. A new grade and a new package, adopted by the association will be demonstrated and explained in detail in the interest of standardization.

Schools will be called at the following places at the indicated time.

Oct. 17—Somerset, Somerset County

Oct. 18—Patton, Cambria County

Oct. 24—Kresgeville, Monroe County

Oct. 25—Catawissa, Columbia County

Oct. 29—Union City, Erie County

Oct. 30—Titusville, Crawford County

Oct. 31—Coudersport, Potter County

Nov. 6—(to be announced), York County

Nov. 13—(to be announced), Lehigh County

Nov. 14—(to be announced), Northampton County

Additional meetings may be held, but it is thought that the outlying centers can be serviced nicely through our area offices. Notices for each and every meeting will be sent to inspectors in his area in good time.—C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary.

The Grand Opening of the Conyngham Valley Farmers' Exchange

The grand opening of the Conyngham Valley Farmers' Exchange on September 19, was a great success. Growers and their families from far and wide assembled to recognize the courage, energy and enthusiasm of Harold Welsh of Sybertsville.

This Exchange to be managed by Mr. Welsh, will be in a position to store 30 to 40 thousand bushels of potatoes for farmers in the community within a reasonable distance. The crying need of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers has been more warehousing and storage facilities throughout the state from which a constant supply of potatoes could be distributed to hold our markets, who must have potatoes regularly throughout the season. Too many potatoes in Pennsylvania must be sold before freezing weather, which has a depressing effect upon prices and demands. These community storages will be the answer not only for a uniform supply but for a standardized package. A storage of this type means that a regular crew will grade, pack and deliver Blue Label Potatoes. It assures quality and volume throughout the marketing season.

Mr. Welsh is to be commended for his confidence and faith in the future of Conyngham Valley's agriculture. He visualizes the possibilities of a community that will produce, process, sell and deliver farm produce. He is to be congratulated in having developed a building which will be the pride of his community where rural industries may thrive with rural labor and rural management. In addition to potato warehousing he will be in the machinery sales and service business, fertilizer business and farm supply business. A combination such as he has precludes success.

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association is proud to have had a part in the grand opening and dedication.

The following program was presented with County Agent James D. Hutchinson presiding at the afternoon and evening session. Harold Welsh welcomed to the Exchange:

Afternoon

P. Daniel Frantz, Sales Manager
Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Roy R. Hess, Area Manager
Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

Mr. Minnich, Assistant Manager
Conyngham Valley Farmers' Exchange

Grading and packing Blue Labels

Evening

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary-Treasurer, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association

Clyde Zehner, Chairman
State AAA Office

Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

R. B. Donaldson, Extension Representative, Pennsylvania State College

Mr. Bamer, Extension Representative
Pennsylvania State College.

The evening program was concluded with a brief program of magic and slight of hand and Round and Square dancing with a local orchestra calling the tunes.

Potato Crop Improves

The Nation's potato crop continued to improve during August and September 1 conditions indicate a crop of 432,895,000 bushels. This prospective crop is more than 12 million bushels larger than the crop indicated on August 1 with most of the improvement occurring in the 18 surplus late States. Prospective production is 14 per cent above the 1944 crop of 379,436,000 bushels and exceeds the 10-year (1934-43) average of 375,091,000 by 15 per cent. Only in 1943, when 464,999,000 bushels were produced, has production been above the crop now in prospect. The cool summer, with plenty of moisture throughout practically all of the country, has been very favorable for potatoes. The September 1 prospective yield per acre is 152.1 bushels compared with the 147.7 bushels indicated on August 1 and the previous record-high yield of 139.6 bushels in 1943.

A prospective crop of 301,960,000 bushels is shown for the 18 surplus late States, compared with 291,641,000 bushels a month ago. In 1943, the year of the record-high potato crop, production in these 18 States amounted to 328,581,000 bushels.

BLUE LABEL

Vine Killing Suggestions

Use of herbicides to kill the vines is suggested as a means for preventing losses from potato tuber rots, especially where late blight is developing on the leaves and the potatoes have attained desirable marketable size.

A good kill of vines has been obtained from Dowspray 66 used at the rate of 6 pounds to 100 gallons of spray, and applied at the rate of 150 gallons to the acre.

Sinox, used at the rate of 2 gallons to 100 gallons of spray, to which 6 pounds of ammonium sulphate has been added, also has given a good kill of vines.

Both materials foam readily in the tank, and the agitators may have to be disconnected.

Common barn salt at the rate of 15 pounds per 100 gallons of water applied on a clear bright day effects a good kill economically. Spray equipment must be thoroughly washed out after using salt solution.

Since the herbicides kill the vines quickly and growth of tubers stops at once these vine killers should not be applied until the potatoes have reached the desired size.

BLUE LABEL

Here's Something Startling

Between Pearl Harbor and the latest counting date U. S. war casualties totaled 1,070,819. Of these, 251,000 were combat dead. For a like period deaths from accidents among civilians on the home front numbered in toto 335,000 with injuries to 34,000,000. In 1944 civilian accidental deaths totaled 90,000. That is as if an atomic bomb had wiped out Allentown and all its population.

A large portion of these were results of automobile accidents. So watch your step—especially that step on the gas.

1945-'46
PAPER BAG PRICES AND REGULATIONS

ATTENTION! Growers, Grade Supervisors, Contactmen

Effective August 1, 1945, and until further notice, the following prices and regulations on Association trade-marked paper potato bags will prevail:

PRICES:

Blue Label 15's	(2 wall—60/50)	$25.00 per M.
Red Label 15's	(2 wall—60/50)	$24.50 per M.
Blue Label 50's	(2 wall—70/60) or (3 wall—40/40/50)	$57.00 per M.
Blue Label 50's	(3 wall—50/50/50)	$63.00 per M.
Unclassified 50's	(2 wall—70/60)	$52.00 per M.

The above prices are for DELIVERY to ANY point in Pennsylvania or at officially designated warehouses and **include** the wire loop ties and the commission of the Association.

SPECIFICATIONS:

15-pound bags, two wall 60/50-110 weight. Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, two wall 70/60-130 weight, Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, three wall 50/50/50 wet strength & Natural Kraft
50-pound bags, three wall 40/40/50 weight, Natural Kraft

TERMS:

All Association trade-marked paper potato bags are shipped on a C.O.D. basis (NO EXCEPTIONS). When bags are forwarded by rail, shipments will be made sight draft attached to bill of lading; when shipments go forward by truck, arrangements must be made by the consignee to settle for same at destination, either by check (Certified Check not required), or in cash.

DISTRIBUTION POINTS:

Hummel Warehouse Co., Inc., 728-40 N. 15th St., Allentown, Pa.
Jacob K. Mast Warehouse, Blue Ball, Pa., (On U. S. Route 322)
Somerset Farm Bureau Co-operative Association, Somerset, Pa.
J. C. Jacobsen & Son, Girard, Pa.
Ed Fisher Warehouse, Coudersport, Penna.
Roy Hess Farm, Stillwater, near Benton, Penna.
G. L. F. Warehouse, c/o J. M. Hindman, Union City, Pa.

All bags for warehouse pick-ups must be released by an authorized representative of the Association, on a bag release order, for pick-up at any of the above authorized distribution points and will, in all cases, be subject to the above cash terms.

DIRECT DELIVERIES:

All orders for Association trade-marked paper potato bags for either rail or truck shipments must clear through the Association office, Williamsport, Pa., NO

EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE TO THIS REGULATION.

When placing orders for bags which are to move by rail, **be sure to designate** correct shipping address and name and address of the bank through which draft is to be drawn. When movement is by truck be sure to have check or cash arranged for when the bags arrive at designated destination.

THE ART OF POTATO DIGGING

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor,
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

THE AIM

Nothing brings out the disposition of a man quite so much as the operation of a modern potato digger.
Some operators do it easy; some fight it from the word "go." Anyway, a poor workman quarrels with his tools.
Of course the aim to be accomplished in potato digging is to bring to sight as nearly all of the potatoes as possible, with the least possible amount of injury.
Not enough thought and attention have been given to the proposition of injuring potatoes while digging.

THE EVOLUTION

Fundamentally, the elevator potato digger has not changed a great deal since the first cross link elevator chain or web grabbed the soil, stones and potatoes right back of the point or blade and conveyed the entire mass upward, while the finer material fell through and the rest, including the potatoes, fell off the end two or three feet above the ground allowing gravity to separate the potatoes from the heavier materials.

In the earlier days of horse-power the friction clutch was merely slipping the lugged wheels on the ground.

Since the days of power take off drives a safety or friction clutch was added.

A great deal of thought and experimenting has been done, centered around the front end of the digger to facilitate the "flow" of soil onto the chain or web without clogging.

A great deal more thought and experimenting has been devoted to prevent stones stopping the revolving chain or web. Parts that broke most frequently were strengthened, parts that wore most rapidly were protected and hardened.

And still the most insignificant stone frequently stops the whole works dead and less frequently will cause a serious break to some part of the mechanism.

And yet there is no other tool on the farm that so much is expected of it, and no other that accomplishes so much under so great and as many difficulties unless it is the stone crusher.

Continued on next page

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Continued on next page

The Art of Digging—

Continued from page seventeen

Potato fields contain soil of various consistencies, stones and clods of various sizes, very wet to very dry, very hard to very loose, weeds and trash in various amounts, all to be separated and placed **under** the individual tubers without seriously injuring them.

Ponder on the fact that a potato digger moves almost half as much soil as the plow and moves it much farther and many times at fast. There is little wonder that they wear out so fast—more wonder that they do not wear out faster and break more frequently.

The **weaknesses** of the modern elevator diggers are:

1. They are stopped by stones catching.
2. They clog with vines and trash.
3. They injure the tubers.
4. They break too easily.
5. They wear out too fast.
6. They are not well engineered.
7. They run too fast.

—BLUE—LABEL—

"Now is the time for potatoes to appear often on the family table. With the potato crop expected to be larger than last year, there's no need to skimp on this good vegetable," says Miss Lydia Tarrant, extension nutrition specialist of the College.

Potatoes are a good investment in health and energy as well as flavor. They contain vitamin C and thiamine or B-one and are rich in starch. Persons who avoid potatoes because they are reducing deprive themselves of valuable nourishment. It isn't so much the potato, as the other foods served with the potato, that build unwanted fat, the specialist points out. One medium-sized potato has about 100 calories, the same number that an orange or a banana contains.

To keep potatoes at their tastiest and best, prepare and cook them quickly, advises Miss Tarrant. Time the meal so the potatoes come off the stove and onto the table without waiting.

Cook potatoes with their jackets on if you want to serve potatoes in their most healthful form. Cooking them in their skins retains the greatest food value. If you must peel potatoes, make the peels as thin as possible. Don't let potatoes soak in water, but peel them just before cooking.

Splendid Advice to Potato Growers

HARVEST POTATOES CAREFULLY

Growers cannot be warned too often to harvest their potato crop carefully. Do not harvest potatoes during hot 80°-90° weather. The experience of last year cost the growers nearly one-half million dollars and every precaution should be taken not to harvest or load heated potatoes. Sun scald can best be avoided by harvesting late in the afternoon and making sure that all potatoes are in the barn by mid-morning during hot weather. If, for any reason, potatoes become exposed to the hot sun while in the field they should not be moved until the following morning after they have cooled off. Never handle hot potatoes. Remember also that potatoes can be sun scalded while in burlap bags.

We have a good market now. Don't ruin it by shipping heated potatoes. This market can easily be broken by the shipment of loads of sun scalded potatoes.

The country has a big crop to be moved this year and ceiling prices will not prevail but every precaution should be taken to ship only carefully harvested potatoes.

By properly adjusting the digger, the number of bruised tubers may be greatly reduced.

EASY DOES IT MEN: Potatoes are not "Pig Iron," handle them carefully. Sacks of straw to stand on or to place planks and shutes on. Careful men, every injury means dollars and cents out the window.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The Right Way to Cook Potatoes

Retaining the Food Values

A large part of the potato protein, mineral and vitamin is soluble in water and, therefore, homemakers are learning to observe some definite rules in cooking potatoes to avoid throwing any of the nutritive value away. The rules are simple:

1. Baking or cooking with the "jackets" on, then peeling, are preferred methods of cooking potatoes.
2. When potatoes are peeled before cooking, avoid soaking in water and cook or steam in the smallest possible amount of water, using any liquid left in the gravy, soup or sauce.

Baked Potatoes

Scrub uniform potatoes with a stiff vegetable brush. Dry, and if the skin is to be eaten, rub with salad oil. Bake in a very hot oven. Prick ends with tines of sharp fork. Bake at 450° F. until soft when pressed with fingers. This requires about 45 minutes for medium-sized bakers up to 8 ounces in weight, and 55 to 60 minutes for large bakers weighing from 10 to 14 ounces. To serve, open with prongs of fork, fluff up, and top with pat of butter, salt and paprika. Serve immediately. Baked potatoes are never as good when held as when served immediately from the oven.

Boiled Potatoes

Scrub and peel 6 uniform-sized potatoes. Place in pan which has tightly fitted lid with 1 cup cold water. Bring potatoes to rapid steaming point over high heat, turn to lowest heat and steam until tender (about 40 minutes). Pour off remaining liquid and save. Prepare and serve as desired—buttered, mashed, creamed, etc.

To Mash Boiled Potatoes

Prepare boiled potatoes, as above—mash immediately while still very hot. Add ½ cup hot milk and 2 tablespoons butter or margarine, salt and pepper to taste. Whip thoroughly until light and fluffy with a wooden spoon, and serve at once while very hot.

French Fries

Peel potatoes, cut in lengths the thickness of a pencil and place in a wire basket. Place basket in boiling water (the water must cover the potatoes). Boil five minutes, drain and cool. Fry in deep fat at 395° F. for seven minutes. Drain on absorbent paper, sprinkle with salt and serve at once.

The Potato, Nutrition—

Continued from page eleven

outstandingly *good buys* in practically all respects. Therefore, for those who are looking for more for their money in good nutrition, potatoes should certainly be given a prominent place on the menu and on the shopping list.

How to Buy

A good potato should be firm to pressure of the hand, with even, net-textured skin. It should have few and shallow eyes. The shape may be long or round depending on variety, but should not have protruding knobs indicating uneven growth. The inside color should be an even creamy white with no signs of rings. The desirable mealiness of cooked potatoes is the result of high starch content. To test for this quality, cut a potato in two and rub the cut surfaces together. Considerable froth and a tendency to cling together indicates high starch content.

Do not buy potatoes that are flabby, shriveled, knobby or those which have deep-pitted, scabby skins, cuts, decay or a large amount of dirt. Avoid those with black or hollow heart. Green color on or just below the skin indicates sunburn and bitter flavor.

If You Store Them at Home

When potatoes are purchased in larger amount than can be used in a short time, some consideration should be given to proper storage to insure retaining best quality. A moderately cool, dark, dry storage place is essential.

It is important that the temperature at which potatoes are stored never drop below 45° F., because at lower temperatures the starch is reconverted into sugar. This change may be sufficient to cause an objectionally sweet flavor and seriously injure the cooking qualities, notably frying and making potato chips, because the excessive amount of sugar carmelizes and gives an undesirable dark color. Such potatoes when brought into a warm room gradually lose sugar by reconversion into starch.

THE FARMER COOPERATIVE

Victor Engles, F.F.A. "Spud Chapter" of the Coudersport High School

Editor—This is one of the best addresses presented in State-wide competition. Victor Engles and his instructor C. L. Dewey are to be congratulated.

Honorable judges, fellow Future Farmers, ladies and gentlemen: The subject of my talk tonight is the farmer cooperative and its place in the period following the war.

During the war period the American farmer has achieved the greatest production record in history both in terms of quantity and quality. He has done this despite the lack of adequate equipment and an acute shortage of labor. The whole nation—yes, the entire allied world can be grateful to the American farmer and his wife and children for the food and fibre they have produced. Our health and energy to do the war job—even our ammunition of war—have depended on eleven-hour days in field and barn.

Our agricultural plant has expanded roughly 130 per cent of pre-war. Our supply of such commodities as cotton, wheat, and wool will be very large and we will have dislocations in production of certain so-called "war crops" such as peanuts, soybeans, and hemp. All of this will necessitate major adjustments. But agricultural production does not adjust too easily. In this respect it is like taffy which stretches but does not contract automatically.

And there are other factors peculiar to agriculture which will complicate the farmer's job after the war. For one thing, there will be no backlog of demand for food or fibre when the war ends such as will exist for industrial products as automobiles, refrigerators, typewriters and a thousand other items—because the farmer, unlike many industrial producers, has been producing the same things during the war as he did before the war, and will produce after the war. The big difference is that he has been producing more of them.

More land may come under cultivation and there is every reason to believe that higher yields and improved varieties of agricultural commodities will be developed and better techniques of production designed. This may well mean that fewer people will be needed to produce sufficiently for prewar levels of national and world consumption.

Still another characteristic of agriculture is that most types of farm production do not lend themselves to large-scale operation. The widespread areas involved in farming, the peculiarities of animal husbandry, the combining of livestock and crop enterprises, the changes with the seasons, the advantages of family labor are all factors which tend to make the assembly line technique uneconomical in agriculture. We have more than six million farm units averaging less than 100 acres each. It is difficult for so many farmers to decide on business policies as do industries composed of relatively few units, unless a system adapted to their needs is found. The cooperative type of organization particularly suits the farmer's needs.

Fundamentally the economic reasons why farmers have formed cooperatives have been to give these widespread individual farm operators the advantages of large scale wholesale buying and marketing operations practiced by industrial and commercial enterprise. While production has been proved more efficient on an American family farm than any other farming system in the world, the buying of production supplies and marketing of farm products is most economical when farmers pool their volume. They can bring down the net cost of production by no other practical means at present.

It is in reducing the cost of production supplies and distribution that farmer cooperatives can and will, I believe, render yeoman service in the postwar period. Through their cooperatives, farmers reduce their cost of production, and of marketing—thus freeing purchasing power for the other things which industry produces. Through their cooperatives. farmers foster better grading and standardization of products, better varieties, improves storage facilities, and reduced

Continued on page twenty-five

THE FARMER COOPERATIVE

Victor Engles, F.F.A. "Spud Chapter" of the Coudersport High School

Editor—This is one of the best addresses presented in State-wide competition. Victor Engles and his instructor C. L. Dewey are to be congratulated.

Honorable judges, fellow Future Farmers, ladies and gentlemen: The subject of my talk tonight is the farmer cooperative and its place in the period following the war.

During the war period the American farmer has achieved the greatest production record in history both in terms of quantity and quality. He has done this despite the lack of adequate equipment and an acute shortage of labor. The whole nation—yes, the entire allied world can be grateful to the American farmer and his wife and children for the food and fibre they have produced. Our health and energy to do the war job—even our ammunition of war—have depended on eleven-hour days in field and barn.

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Continued on page twenty-five

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

Farmer Cooperative—

Continued from page twenty-two

costs and increased values to the ultimate buyer. In brief, cooperatives have narrowed distribution margins from both ends—thus making both the producer's and consumer's dollar go farther.

As I see it, the priciples underlying farmer cooperatives stand four square with the principles of democracy, free enterprise, and the Golden Rule. They might have orginated wherever, and only wherever, free people with restricted resources get together to meet a common need.

Basic to farmer cooperatives is the fact that they are owned and controlled by the people they serve—for the most part the stable, sound, middle classes who are the backbone of America. Farmer cooperatives contribute to the building of America as we want it to be, by making for a stronger, self-reliant rural economy. Through cooperatives, groups of farmers work together to supplement their primary tilling and farming operations. Those interested in maintaining the free enterprise system at its best can render no greater contribution than to strengthen the family-owned and operated farm. Farmer cooperatives do this by providing the economies of large scale buying and marketing at cost for the operators of family farms.

One of our main concerns is that lack of understanding of the farmer cooperatives may be used to drive a wedge between agriculture and business which will be to the detriment of both groups and may take a generation or longer to overcome. It would be extremely unfortunate if these two large segments of American free enterprise should waste their strength baiting each other at a time when the system of free enterprise is engaged in a serious struggle to maintain itself. Both agriculture and business should devote their entire energy in constructive positive action rather than trying to hinder the other fellow. Such efforts might include improving the preservation and storing of perishables, such as by dehydration and quick freezing; improving the tools and equipment for cultivation and harvesting; improving the effectiveness of disease control equipment and materials; improving distribution between farmer and consumer; finding new uses for farm products; enlarging our foreign outlets. The ultimate reward will go to those who fill each minute with sixty seconds of constructive effort rather than destructive horseplay. Farmer cooperatives are prepared to go ahead, and if others lag, will set the pace and lead the way toward processing higher quality foods and distributing them widely and efficiently.

I believe that in the postwar period, agriculture, industry, and labor must each look beyond its own narrow restricted interest to the common good and the national welfare if we are to achieve our greatest potential success as a nation. An army officer stated recently that if an army's strategy is right it can make mistakes in tactics and still win the battle. I submit that the correct overall strategy of industry, labor and agriculture should be to work directly for the good of the whole nation. If this strategy is used, the nation will win out in the postwar period in spite of mistakes in tactics. If this fails, there is the alternative of more governmental controls and ultimately stateism.

Finally, the need of the country for sound rural institutions was never greater nor the opportunities more challenging than they are today. Farmer cooperatives shall not lack for public approval if they are sufficiently diligent in proclaiming sound objectives to the world and in maintaining sound cooperative principles. Cooperatives should not seek competitive advantages thru special privileges under the law, nor should the public be denied the advantages found in the cooperative way of preparing and delivering its food and textiles. A prominent business leader recently struck a true note when he said that the expansion of farmer cooperatives in the future will depend in a large degree upon how well other business serves the farmer's needs. I see no inherent conflict between farmer cooperatives and other business. From the farmer's viewpoint, the future of farmer cooperatives will depend on what is done **through** cooperatives, not on what is done **to** cooperatives.

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Regulations for Checking Yield of Potatoes For 400-Bushel Club

"Time Out" for checking yields, varieties, fertilizers, and practices always pay well. Left to right—Sam Gray, American Potato Institute, Washington, D. C.; Miles Horst, Secretary, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council.

HINTS ON LOCATING BEST ACRE:

Determine by lay of land, by sampling, knowledge of the grower, and character of vine growth, where the probable high-yielding acre lies.

A few preliminary checks made by digging and weighing the potatoes from 50 feet of row at different points in the acre will reveal fairly accurately whether a 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushel yield is to be checked. The following table gives the necessary pounds from 50 feet of row to indicate a yield of 400, 500, 600, or 700 bushels per acre:

Continued on page twenty-nine

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

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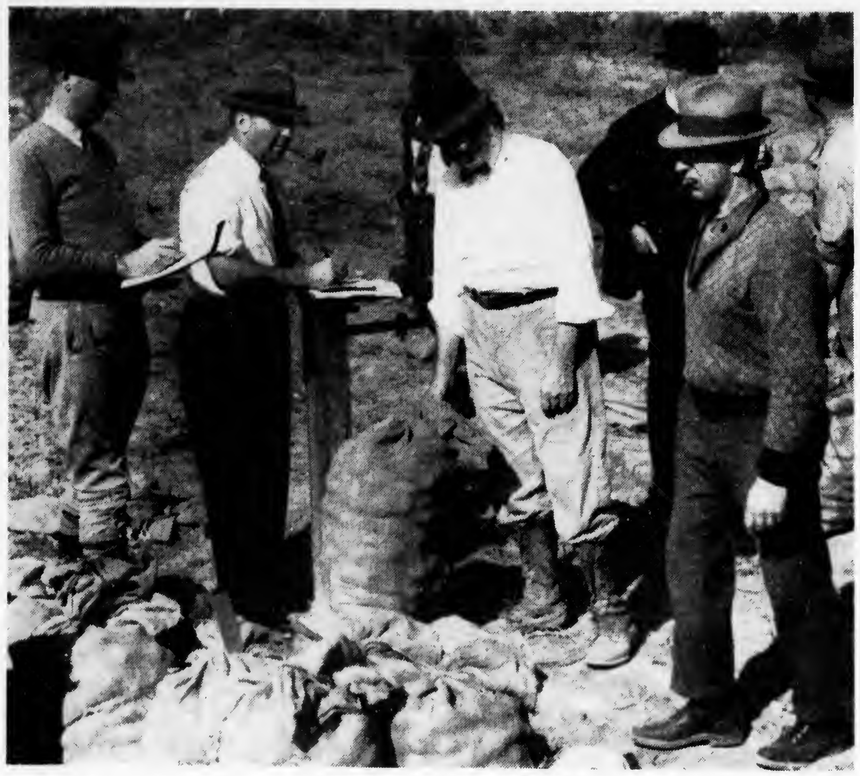

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Continued on page twenty-nine

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

PENNSYLVANIA'S 400-BUSHEL CLUB

Official Application for Recording a Checked Acre of Potatoes and for Qualifying for Membership in Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club

....., 19....

Gentlemen: In accordance with the regulations and instructions promulgated by the Association for administering Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club I, ..., of .....
(Signature of applicant in own handwriting) (Post Office)

R.F.D. ....., ..., Pennsylvania, have requested and had an acre of potatoes checked by .....,
(County) (Name of Official Supervisor) who has performed this service as evidenced by his official report appearing below. I understand that any grower who has an acre of potatoes officially checked and makes the required yield, thereby becomes a bona fide member of Pennsylvania's 400-Bushel Club, (see Regulation 1). It is understood, however, that in order for a Club member to be awarded the Official 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, (Regulation 8) that Regulation 7, parts a and b, must be fully complied with.

Check one: ( ) I am a member of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., in good standing for the current year, or

( ) I apply hereby for membership in the Association, and my dollar membership fee is attached to this application.

AS A MATTER OF HISTORICAL RECORD: In view of the many new varieties being introduced, this yield was made with.....
(Name Variety)

Recognizing the possibilities of other improvements or innovations, the following departure from the usual practices was used:.....

.....

.....

OFFICIAL RECORD: As supervisor in the checking of an acre of potatoes for the above named applicant, I hereby certify that I have performed that service and the yield as stated below is official. I recommend, provided applicant has fully met the conditions set forth in the regulations and instructions, that the Official Association 400-Bushel Club Medal, applicable to his class, be awarded as a mark of distinction.

Yield per acre:.....bushels. Date checked:....., 19...

(Signed).....
County Agent or Vocational Instructor
or Association Representative

Continued from page twenty-six

Length of Check	Width of Row	400 Bushels	500 Bushels	600 Bushels	700 Bushels
feet of row	inch row	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
50	28	64.4	80.5	96.6	112.7
50	29	66.7	83.3	100.0	116.7
50	30	69.0	86.2	103.5	120.7
50	31	71.2	89.0	106.8	124.6
50	32	73.5	91.8	110.2	128.6
50	33	75.7	94.5	113.5	132.4
50	34	78.0	97.5	117.0	136.5

REGULATIONS FOR CHECKING ACRE:

1. The acre to be checked shall be made up of any number of continuous equal length rows.

2. To qualify for a 400 or 500 bushel yield at least one-tenth of the acre must be dug and this area shall be included in the check so that not more than ten consecutive undug rows will be left in any portion of the acre.

3. To qualify for a 600 or 700 bushel yield the entire acre shall be dug and weighed.

4. Selection of rows to be dug may include rows adjacent to, and rows not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks. A proportionate number of each shall be dug. The number of rows adjacent to, and not adjacent to sprayer wheel tracks will vary with the size of the spray boom used.

5. Accuracy in measuring and marking the acre to be dug in weighing and counting the yield is important to the perpetuation of the 400-Bushel Club.

6. All applications, either for Club membership or to have the 400-Bushel Medal awarded (including official yields) must be forwarded to the office of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Inc., Williamsport, Pennsylvania, not later than DECEMBER FIRST of each year. Applications may be forwarded either by the grower or the Verifying Officer.

— MEMBERSHIPS —

New and Renewals since last issue of The Guide Post

A. M. Fries, Wayne
Frank Kobilis, Columbia
Harry John, Columbia
Ellis Artley, Columbia
S. C. Feese, Columbia
Perry Knorr, Columbia
Clarence Bittner, Columbia
Warfordsburg F.F.A. Chapter, Fulton
M. J. Hodoba, Columbia
Elmer Levan, Columbia
Merl Davis, Columbia
Evon Abraczinskas, Columbia
A. D. Knorr, Columbia
Andrew Bolish, Carbon
Zigmont Venesky, Cambria
E. K. Stern, Clinton
Harry Zukoski, Schuylkill
Isaiah Beegle, Bedford
Ray E. Seamens, Westmoreland
Arthur Kelly, Ohio
Paul B. Stayer, Bedford
Ivan H. Greenlee, Erie
Eli O. Nolt, Lancaster
Hillard Bros., Luzerne
J. M. Hindman, Jefferson
A. T. Bradley, Maryland
H. F. Koon, Luzerne
Elmer McLaughlin, Potter
Aaron Stern, Clinton
Emmaus High School, Lehigh
Richard A. Mansfield, Potter
Wesley S. King, Erie
Oscar Rice, Jr., Lancaster
Herbert P. Spencer, Westmoreland
John Downor, Erie
Johnson Bros., Monroe
John Bohlayer, Bradford
J. D. Straw, Clearfield
Mrs. John S. Mills, Lawrence

Life Members

J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Somerset
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Homer C. Bartter, Ohio
Walter H. Schlegel, Northampton
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Haskell Kune, Clearfield
D. E. Lewis, West Virginia
Paul R. Yoder, Chester
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Andy Boleratz, Erie
Foster Blough, Potter
Norman Strohl, Carbon
Wilmer Mensch, Columbia
Karl Uffelman, Dauphin
Walter Gibbons, Lancaster
Lynn Sill, Erie
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
V. A. Holtz, Cambria
Joseph Fisher, Somerset
Oscar Lauger, Warren
W. R. Campbell, West Virginia
A. J. Troyer, Ohio
A. C. Harwood, Erie
Harvey S. Lute, Cambria
George D. Henninger, Northampton
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
Leon Epler, Northumberland
R. B. Stutzman, Indiana
E. S. Grim, Franklin
McPherson Bros., York
Harry Stockdale, Ohio
Elvin R. Huntsinger, Schuylkill
Dr. A. S. Romberger, Illinois
Harry Gallant, Crawford
Ralph Miller, Lehigh
W. C. Leofsky, Warren
Ivan Miller, Erie
Alfred Stauffer, Chester
Harold Rarig, Columbia
Ralph Hertzler, Chester
Roy R. Hess, Columbia
Ralph A. Thompson, New York
Francis Yahner, Cambria
Edgar R. Spory, Somerset
Gust Gorka, Erie
Omar Umble, Chester
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Barrie Wilson, Erie
Mervin Hanes, York
Robert M. Henninger, Northampton
Harold J. Henninger, Lehigh
R. N. Benjamin, Dauphin
Roy B. Hoober, Lancaster
Harry Long, Warren
Joseph M. Schwabenbauer, Elk
Douglas Fisher, Potter
Mathias C. Whitenight, Columbia
Harry Peterson, Crawford
John J. Petro, Jr., Columbia
Harvey Lute, Indiana
R. K. Wagner, Indiana

The GUIDE POST

VISION — PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS

HU23ME—TWO TYPE VIEWS

Strenuous efforts are being made to free this otherwise most promising seedling of "Ring Rot"

OCTOBER — 1945

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 10

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by

THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Volume XXII **October, 1945** **Number 10**

NEWS AND VIEWS:

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

The interval since the last News and Views, September 17, to the present writing, October 20, has been the most strenuous, the most hectic in two decades. Some weeks we actually got a day and a half potato digging. Only the last three days, October 18-20, were the conditions ideal. My own crop was finished in the afternoon of the 20th. The crop over the entire state is pretty well in storage. Most yields, state wide, were a trifle disappointing.

The work was completed at Camp Potato on October 16 when Ed Fisher sent up his grading crew and Mr. Penny of Wellsboro brought over a crew of five and the large batches we dug with the two-row digger.

On the center spread considerable was said about adapted research and human relations. What prompted this month's center spread was the experiences of this "hectic" interval covered by this issue of News and Views.

Except for a vibrant co-operative spirit among our growers, Camp Potato would never have been built. J. K. Mast never would have sent up a crew to help plant seedlings. Ed Fisher and Mr. Penny never would have sent crews to help dig them. There are a hundred and

Figure 1.—Row on left shows effect of improper placement of fertilizer. Row on right is the result of proper placement. A difference in yield of 15-18 pounds of potatoes in a 50 foot row.

one growers who do a hundred and one little things for the potato industry without any thought of direct remuneration.

Fred Bateman had an idea about fertilizer placement that worked — when the fertilizer boot got out of kilter and the fertilizer bands got too near the seed pieces and the yields were reduced. (See illustration Fig 1.

So far as Pennsylvania is concerned, Sam D. Gray of the American Potash Institute championed plowing down considerable of the fertilizer application and the minor part in bands with the planter. All of us were skeptical about the practice. Sam persisted. Ed Fisher took it most seriously. He seemed to have gotten increased yields wherever he did it.

The past season Ed laid out a series of elaborate tests.

The table below gives the treatments and the results—study it.

Plot No.	Plowed Down	700 lbs. Band Application	Yield, Bu. Per Acre
1	0	6-18-6	364
2	1500 lbs. 8-16-16	6-18-6	484
2	1500 lbs. 8-16-6	8-16-16	411
3	900 lbs. 8-16-16	6-18-6	506
3	900 lbs. 8-16-6	8-16-16	432
4	0	6-18-6	403
4	0	8-16-16	412
5	500 lbs. Potash	6-18-6	442
5	500 lbs. Potash	8-16-6	432
6	500 lbs. Am. Sulp.	6-18-6	402
6	500 lbs. Am. Sulp.	8-16-16	452
7	500 lbs. Nit. Soda	6-18-6	442
7	500 lbs. Nit. Soda	8-16-16	482
8	500 lbs. 20% S. Phos.	6-18-6	430
8	500 lbs. 20% S. Phos.	8-16-16	440

Somewhere in my book written in 1927 I quoted Dr. Fritch of Macungie in which he said his most worn-out plow gave him the best results in fitting a seed bed for potatoes.

I also called attention to the place for the litter in an ideal seed bed for potatoes, is incorporated in the upper layers of soil and not plowed down in the bottom of the furrows.

Faulkner comes along in "Plowman's Folly" and talks about incorporating the litter in the upper stratum of the soil.

The whole trouble has been to get

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

the litter incorporated in the soil, without actually plowing it in the bottom of the furrow, so as to prevent it becoming a nuisance in cultivating and weeding operations.

The accompanying illustration, Fig. 2, shows a new type plow which accomplishes what "Plowman's Folly" desires, and does it in a practical way.

Actual yield tests showed 76 bushels per acre with this system over the conventional plow on Ed Fisher's farm. It showed 48 bushels per acre increase on Everett Blass' farm over the conventional plow; and 51 bushels per acre increase on M. P. Whitenight's farm. These increases are phenomenal and away beyond anyone's expectations. The conventional plowmen still will not believe it.

The ideal seed bed for potatoes is one worked from the bottom up and not packed from the top down with the litter well distributed in the upper layers of the soil and not plowed down in the bottom of the furrows to disturb capillary moisture.—A quotation from Nixon's "Principles of Potato Production," 1927.

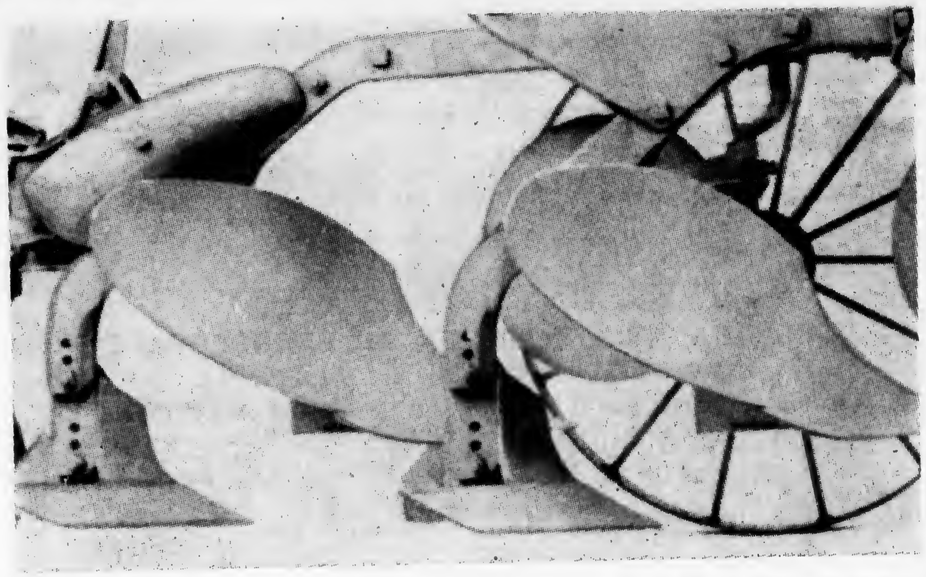

Figure 2.—The over and under plow. A new method of root bed preparation in which the litter is incorporated in the upper four to six inches of soil. Watch the GUIDE POST for first hand information on this plow. It's sensational.

The display of potatoes to the left is the progeny of a single tuber six hill—18 lbs.—a rate of 800 bushels per acre on Camp Potato soil—of HU23ME 83 days from planting.

The righ display is the progeny of a single tuber six hills of a high-yielding White Rural seedling planted righ beside HU23ME for comparison 83 days from planting but killed by the frost.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WAR FINANCE COMMITTEE OF PENNSYLVANIA

AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

21 South Twelfth Street **Philadelphia 7, Penna.**

TO: PENNSYLVANIA FARMERS

The members of the Agricultural Advisory Committee of the Pennsylvania War Finance Committee make the following statement regarding the **Victory Bond Drive** scheduled to start October 29, 1945:

Too many people think, because fighting has ceased, there is no further need for the sale of Bonds. Such is not the case. Our armed forces are still in existence. These forces must be paid and maintained. There are large unpaid obligations that must be settled.

Getting our millions of boys back home and into civilian life again is expensive and will take time. Providing hospitalization and rehabilitation will require large sums. Some financial aid will have to be extended to many soldiers pending ability to obtain a job.

Administration and military occupation of Germany and Japan costs money. Feeding the starving peoples of Axis conquered countries for a time will require funds. Doing this is not only a moral and humane obligation, but necessary as a practical measure in our own selfish interest to prevent chaos and resultant sowing of the seeds of another war.

Government Bonds furnish the best opportunity of building reserves. These Bonds are just the same as cash. Hoarded cash is worth no more than Government Bonds. The purchasing power of Bonds and cash is just the same. In fact, Government Bonds are preferable to cash because the interest paid on them adds to the principal.

We believe farmers have done their share of Bond buying in the past and trust that in the coming **Victory Loan** they may exceed past performances.

We would urge our agricultural folk to buy Bonds to the extent of their ability.

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Administration and military occupation of Germany and Japan costs money. Feeding the starving peoples of Axis conquered countries for a time will require funds. Doing this is not only a moral and humane obligation, but necessary as a practical measure in our own selfish interest to prevent chaos and resultant sowing of the seeds of another war.

Government Bonds furnish the best opportunity of building reserves. These Bonds are just the same as cash. Hoarded cash is worth no more than Government Bonds. The purchasing power of Bonds and cash is just the same. In fact, Government Bonds are preferable to cash because the interest paid on them adds to the principal.

We believe farmers have done their share of Bond buying in the past and trust that in the coming **Victory Loan** they may exceed past performances.

We would urge our agricultural folk to buy Bonds to the extent of their ability.

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE JOINT MARKETING CONFERENCE

Harrisburg, September 21, 1945

1945 Potato Blossom Queen Anna Mae Dennison and Co-chairmen Ed Fisher, Vice President of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers, Association, and Fred W. Johnson, President, of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council.

Growers, Association Directors, Association Managers and co-operating Distributors met in a joint marketing conference at the Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg, September 21, 1945 to officially launch our 10th Potato Marketing Year. Co chairmen for the occassion were Vice President Fisher and Fred W. Johnson, president of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council. Problems and plans for the 1945-46 season were explained and discussed at considerable length with the result that growers and food distributors came away with a common understanding. The co-operative marketing and distribution arrangement so successful in the past was generally admitted to be the working answer to economical and efficient marketing. P. Daniel Frantz, sales manager for the Association outlined his plans and introduced area managers, Jos. Fisher, of Johnstown; Roy Hess, Benton; Hiram Frantz, Allentown; Richard Mansfield, Coudersport; J. M. Hindman, Union City; Messrs. Johnson, Getz and Stovalosky of the American Stores; Waddington, Lumpkin of A & P Stores, definitely contributed suggestions and proposals which were unanimously accepted by the Conference. Association Secretary-Treasurer in charge of Business and Education, Wuesthoff, outlined his procedures and plans for making **The Blue Label Grade.** Secretary of Agriculture, Miles Horst, addressed the group on the importance and interrelationship of business and agriculture. H. C. Fetterolf, director of vocational agricultural education, re-emphasized the fact that his department was pleased to work with co-operating business and industry concerns in the interest of practical education.

Anna Mae Dennison, Pennsylvania's Potato Blossom Queen, was officially presented to the conference dinner. After most ably addressing the group in the interest of greater potato consumption through popularizing the All American Food, The Potato, Miss Dennison presided over the session with grace and dignity.

Dr. Pauline Sanders, in charge of Home Economics Education, outlined for the group her ideas as to the place of Home Economics in relation to the home, the school and to business. Miss Sanders introduced her state-wide committee for popularizing and utilizing the nations surplus potato crop. Outstanding scientists and educators constituted the committee from whom this Association may well hear from within the next few weeks. The following are some of the working committee:

Irene McDermott, Pittsburgh; Marie O'Brien; Margaret Riegel, State College; Agnes Brumbaugh, State College; Dr. Pauline Beery Mack, State College; Lydia Tarrant, State College; Bessie Reitz, Sunbury; Ann Sudders, Pittsburgh.

R. N. Benjamin, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Co-opera-

Continued on page fifteen

Pennsylvania's Blossom Queen presents Governor Ed. Martin with a few HU23ME potatoes,

Queen Addresses the Conference

Today is my first public appearance as Pennsylvania's Potato Blossom Queen since that honor was conferred upon me at Camp Potato on August 15th.

As a home economics student, I consider it an especial privilege to have the responsibility of helping to popularize the Pennsylvania Potato—for it is for that purpose that the position of Pennsylvania's Potato Blossom Queen was created and it is to that purpose that I shall dedicate my reign.

I consider it no little honor that my first public appearance is marked by the presence of Dr. A. Pauline Sanders, Chief of Home Economics Education for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and I am especially pleased that Dr. Sanders chose this occasion to present her plan for a joint campaign between organized Home Economics Education and the potato growers for increasing the per capita consumption of Pennsylvania potatoes.

Dr. Sanders comes from Indiana State Teachers College where I am a student. So also does Mr. Harold Thomas acting chief of Distributive Education who has honored us with his presence this evening. I am glad to see Indiana so prominently represented in this worthy cause.

I am also pleased to see Mr. Schrope and the Schuylkill County delegation here. My father and his father before him were potato growers in Schuylkill County and it is on my fathers potato farm that I first learned of the problems confronting potato growers and of the great possibilities of the Pennsylvania Potato.

The opportunities for the growth of the potato industry in Pennsylvania have few equals in any field of endeavor. We consume millions of bushels more of potatoes than we produce in this state. We produce potatoes of unexcelled flavor and consumer appeal. In other words: We have the markets. We have the producers. We have the land. We have the distributors. Our job today is to advertise our product—to create public demand for our own Pennsylvania potatoes.

If we never do more than to teach our own Pennsylvania inhabitants to demand Pennsylvania potatoes when

Continued on page twenty-eight

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Continued on page twenty-eight

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA
F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

Attention — Growers and Distributors

We would call your attention to the definite location and establishment of the Association's Sales Offices, for the purpose of facilitating increased packing and marketing of Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes. Growers and buyers in need of assistance and supplies are urged to contact their nearest office.

Northeastern Area—
Roy R. Hess, Manager
Stillwater, Penna.
Phone—Benton 34R14

Southeastern Area—
Hiram A. Frantz, Manager
702 N. Eighth Street
Allentown, Penna.
Phone—Allentown 3-1765

Southwestern Area—
Joseph H. Fisher, Manager
611 Swank Building
Johnstown, Penna.
Phone—Johnstown 82271

Northwestern Area—
J. M. Hindman, Manager
11½ Gardner Building
Union City, Penna.
Phone—Union City 200

North Central Area—
Richard Mansfield, Manager
207 Main Street
Coudersport, Penna.
Phone—560

—BLUE LABEL—

Potato Mix-Up ? ? ?

One of the unexpected results of the government buying potatoes to put a floor under the farm prices of this year's big crop has been discovered by agents of the Agriculture Department.

A check made in Washington retail stores disclosed that cull potatoes are going to market while cattle eat Grade A potatoes. The government is buying the two top grades of spuds and sells them at a loss for cattle food and for making starch and alcohol. Farmers are sending the culls to market because the government won't buy them.

The Agriculture Department is reported considering a threat to sell good potatoes for human beings in competition with the farmers.

Somehow or other this all seems a little mixed up with the farmer being caught in the middle, not to mention the taxpayers. There probably is a good reason for the plan, but it makes one wonder why the government doesn't slash the surplus by buying the poorer grade of potatoes, thereby leaving the top grades for normal sale.

Good Roads Amendment

Yes or No?

Pennsylvania voters will have opportunity November 6 to vote on an amendment to the state constitution called Amendment No. 1, the Good Roads Amendment. Support for the Amendment is sought by the Pennsylvania Good Roads Association.

Amendment No. 1 gives voters an opportunity to vote yes or no on this question:

"Shall the State Constitution be amended requiring that revenues from taxes and license fees on gasoline, motor fuels, motor vehicles and operators and other products used in motor transportation, be used solely for highways, safety thereon, air navigation facilities, costs and expenses incident thereto; and permitting loans from such revenues to the Commonwealth only if repaid in the next fiscal year?"

The Good Roads Association says the Amendment is non-political and that it will benefit farmers, consumers, working men and business men because better roads create jobs, lower transportation costs, encourage business enterprise and invite tourist travel.

Around the World in Four Centuries With a Potato!

Yes, four centuries is a long time, but our dinner-table friend hasn't traveled in the usual way. The potato has literally **grown** around the world on its merits as a delicious food that today is eaten in nearly every country. Though it was known in South America as early as 200 A.D. it was not until the Spaniard came to the New World that its globetrotting began. Here are some of its travels:

Into Northern Europe went specimens from Cardan's first crop, but now superstition threatened to destroy them for many persons thought potatoes poisonous. By 1779 that fear had vanished and they were so important a food that Prussia and Austria fought the Kartoffelkreig or Potato War . . . to control the potato crops!

The Irist Potato is a native American! Colonists in Virginia learned from the Indians to eat potatoes as food. Ships returning to England carried po-

Continued on page thirty

—BLUE LABEL—

— State Wide Blue Label Movement —

Southeastern Area	256,489 Peck Equivalents
Northeastern Area	208,788 Peck Equivalents
North Central Area	28,333 Peck Equivalents
Northwestern Area	119,735 Peck Equivalents
Southwestern Area	157,834 Peck Equivalents
Total to October 15	771,179 Peck Equivalents

Stress Quality

The one bright aspect to the present potato situation—with yield up and price down, as seen by R. B. Donaldson, extension economist in charge of marketing, the Pennsylvania State College, is the "spade work" growers have been doing over the last eight or ten years in developing good market outlets near home.

Present emphasis, he thinks, should be on retaining these market outlets against the possibility of competition from out-of-state producers. The way to do it, he tells growers, is to continue providing dealers and distributors with a steady supply of uniform quality, well graded potatoes.

The challenge, Donaldson explains, is to keep these market outlets supplied steadily. He cautions that if growers hold their entire crop for a possible rising market these outlets will be forced to seek other sources of supply with the likely result they would continue to patronize these new sources regularly.

"It's not a question of quality crop. We grow," Donaldson asserts, "just as good potatoes as any of the competing states." He indicates, however, a growing trend toward more attractive packaging, and suggests that growers keep in mind "eye appeal" when they package potatoes, especially for "Mrs. Housewife in the city."

End of the war and the attendant dislocation in industry incident to reconversion have contributed, he explains, to "extreme irregularity in the potato markets." While demands have been reduced, partly through government cancellation of orders for the military services, crop estimates are increasing, with present prospects for a U. S. potato crop of 433.000,000 bushels — second highest in the nation's history.

Two New Potato Varieties Lead

Combining the important characteristics of high yield and disease resistance, new varieties set the pace in the first of four 1945 extension variety demonstrations results of which are featuring as many different extension regional potato field days now being held throughout the State.

Results for a 13-variety planting which claimed the attention of potato growers in the northeast corner of the State were announced at the first of these field days held recently on the farm of L. L. Johnson, twenty miles above Scranton, along the northern edge of Lackawanna county.

Teton, producing at the rate of 420 bushels per acre, and Ontario, with 378 bushels, gave the best yields. Dr. O. D. Burke, extension plant pathologist of the Pennsylvania State College, who supervised the variety trials for the Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with Mr. Johnson and the Lackawanna county farm agent, Jesse H. Landenberger, attached particular significance to the performance in yield in view of the risistance by these varieties against disease.

Teton, immune from ring-rot, and Ontario, scab-resistant, were both bred by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and introduced in Pennsylvania, respectively, from Wyoming and New York where they were developed.

Menominee, also scab-resistant, and a top performer in yield in the 1944 Extension variety demonstrations, finished third in the Lackawanna tests with 376 bushels—just two under Ontario. Bushel-per-acre yields for other varieties were: Russet Rural, 369; Houma, 362; Katahdin, 344; Sebago, 340; Masaba, 320; White Rural, 316; Kasota, 311; Cayuga, 283; Sequoia, 282, and Seneca, 248.

Dr. Burke, J. B. R. Dickey, extension agronomist, and other extension specialists of the State College, were awaiting results from similar Extension potato variety trials in Somerset, Erie, and Carbon counties to compare performance by different varieties for different sections of the State.

The 400 Bushel Club

Get Those Acres Measured and Reports in Before DECEMBER 1st

Price Support Available for Potatoes

With Only Emergency Storage

Pennsylvania potato growers do not have to accept less than $2.15 per hundred for potatoes grading U. S. No. 1, even though they do not have permanent storage for their entire crop.

Price support is now available to growers through the use of loans on potatoes stored in windrows, banks, pits, house storages and barn storages. This special loan program is separate from the regular loan program which is on potatoes stored in permanent storage. The use of these two loan programs is the only means of price support for potatoes.

With a national crop estimated at 433 million bushels on September 1, 1945, it looks more and more as if potato producers will need the benefits of the Support Price Loan Program. A crop this large would be from 50 to 60 million bushels more than normally consumed in our country. It has been pointed out that Pennsylvania is digging one of its smallest crops in many years but the fact remains that a large quantity of potatoes will be shipped in from other states to more than offset our small crop. Many Pennsylvania growers are goin gto use the emergency storage because they do not have sufficient permanent storage space.

Potatoes stored in these emergency storages should be protected from weather conditions, including freezing, by a suitable covering of straw and earth, or other suitable covering. At the time of settlement, the producer will receive reimbursement for the fair value of the straw used in such storage.

The quantity and grade of the potatoes will be determined by inspection when potatoes are placed under loan. The loan rates for Pennsylvania under this special program for all varieties of potatoes are as follows:

U. S. Grade No.	Loan Rate per 100 lbs.
1	$1.32
1 Size B	.46
2 (1⅞" minimum)	.46

These loans will not bear interest, but will in all other respects be handled similar to the regular loan program.

Applications for these loans will be accepted immediately at the local county agricultural conservation association. However, November 20. 1945, is the last date for accepting these applications. Loans may be redeemed by repayment of the amount loaned prior to maturity date, which is April 1, 1946.

Settlement will be made by Commodity Credit Corporation on the basis of the September 1945 support price, which is $2.15 per hundred, plus value of straw used, and less marketing services not required. The rates for marketing services established by the Pennsylvania State Potato Committee are as follows:

1. Grading and packing	$ .08
2. Sacks—New (Uniform and renovated)	.15
—Used (Not uniform or renovated) $.05	
3. Transportation—ten mile limit. (¼c per mile per cwt. for each additional mile hauled)	.05
4. Loading and inspection	.04
5. Selling	.05
	$ .37

For more information, please contact your county office of the Agricultural Conservation Association.

Marketing Conference—

Continued from page eleven

tive told the assembled group just why he always enjoyed attending our annual Joint Marketing Conference. Says he, "Yours is a positive action group, not one for complaining or lamenting of conditions but one that sees a remedy and pursues it with effective results.

Dr. E. L. Nixon's inspiring address concluded the evenings program by summarizing the actions and expressions of the day. The Doctor felt that we had reached a New Day of co-operation between Food Producers, Food Distributors and Educational facilities.

ADAPTED RESEARCH

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor,
Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

IN MARKETING

It has taken a quarter of a century of experimenting for the Pennsylvania Potato Growers to discover the **vibrant chord** that all can harmonize on. It was not the formation of the 400 Bushel Potato Club, it was not Camp Potato. It was all of these and more too. It was the vibrant chord of **co-operation.**

Not co-operation to fight something, not co-operation to control production and fix prices. It was co-operation to give to the consumer through the distributor a steady flow of identified acceptable consumer packages at wholesale prices.

Nowhere can one find piles of Pennsylvania **Blue Label** potatoes "cluttering up the market" with no place to go. They are all sold and their destination established before they leave the farm. The price is based on supply and demand—not supply and manipulation—and is always the same to everybody. In short, it is a friendly business relationship throughout, always with quality and availability to the consumer in mind who can wreck the whole project if she becomes dissatisfied with the quality, with the service or with the price.

IN HUMAN RELATIONS

In and of itself Pennsylvania's Potato Marketing Plan is quite a co-operative business undertaking.

By the time you will have read this, the co-operative will have moved over a million Blue Label consumer packages to market this season. In the beginning it struggled along to do it in an entire year. It must be economically sound or it would not grow.

The greatest value, however, that results from the marketing project is what it is doing to the participants—Business and Agriculture.

I have seen doubt and suspicion bordering on open conflict between potato growers on the one hand and business interests on the other, give way to mutual helpful co-operative business understanding. Where no friendship, not even an acquaintanceship, ever existed before, I have seen evolve the friendly hand clasp, the familiar "Hello, Fred, J. A., Woody, P. D., Dent, etc."

Don't think that this brings the "big business man" down to earth, and the producer of the lowly potato to expand his chest a few inches—to the everlasting benefit of both. **This is co-operation.**

IN PRODUCTION

A vibrant living co-operative brings to its aid the helpful suggestion of the allied interests of the potato industry. Some of these so-called industrialists are aware of the fact that prosperous potato producers purchase machinery and supplies, and without these purchases the wheels of their industry would not turn.

Within the past few years potato growers have done more **adapted research** for manufacturers than in a previous generation:

Consumer Paper Packages for potatoes was a joint project between paper bag manufacturers, potato growers and food distributors.

The Pennsylvania Potato Marketing Plan evolved from the joint efforts of the Potato Growers and the Food Chains.

The Proper Placement of Fertilizer was a joint project of the American Potash Institute (Sam Gray), A. B. Farquhar and the Potato Growers.

The Modern Potato Sprayer is the result of the joint efforts of the sprayer manufacturers and potato growers.

There are dozens of old potato gadgets and dozens of new ones in the offing that the making of which will not put an idle hand to work, if the potato grower down on the farm cannot use it efficiently.

The potato grower collectively is the nation's biggest industrialist. He primes the economic pump annually with a half billion dollars' worth of new wealth which never existed before. He is worth co-operating with, not for his sake alone but for his value in greasing the wheels of industry. The Potato Grower has a powerful influence in bringing things, including mankind, down to earth.

BLUE LABEL POTATOES

Not Fancy and Not Difficult

Size—2" minimum with 60 per cent over 2¼".

Variety—One variety or similar varietal characteristics.

Shape—Fairly well shaped. Appearance of individual potato or general appearance of potatoes not materially injured by ill-formed potatoes.

Maturity—Skinned surface not materially affected by very dark discoloration.

Dirt or Foreign Matter—General appearance of potatoes not more than slightly dirty or stained and individual potatoes not badly caked or badly stained.

Freezing Injury, Blackheart, and Soft Rot or Wet Breakdown—None allowed.

Bruises, Sunburn, Blight, Dry Rot and Cuts—Not over 5 per cent waste and appearance of individual potatoes or potatoes in container not materially injured.

Second Growth, Growth Cracks—Appearance of individual potato or of lot not materially injured.

Hollow Heart—Not materially injuring appearance of potato when cut.

Growth Cracks—No deep air cracks, or shallow air cracks materially affecting appearance of individual potato or general appearance of lot.

Surface Scab—Not over 5 per cent in aggregate of surface covered.

Pitted Scab—Shall not affect appearance of potato to greater extent that amount surface scab permitted or not over 5 per cent waste.

Insects (Wire worm, Grub, etc.), **Other Diseases** (stem enddiscoloration, etc.),

Mechanical or Other Injury—Not over 5 per cent waste and not materially injuring appearance of individual potato or lot as a whole.

Sprouts and Shriveling—Not more than moderately shriveled, spongy, or flabby and not more than 10 per cent of stock can have sprouts over ¾" long.

Tolerance for Defects—Not over 5 per cent damage by hollow heart, not over 6 per cent total other defects including 1 per cent soft rot or wet breakdown.

RED LABEL POTATOES

Size—1½" minimum to 2" maximum.

Other Grade Factors Same as for BLUE Labels.

DEFINITIONS OF DEFECTS

Serious Damage — Serious damage means any injury or defect which seriously injures the appearance of the individual potato or the general appearance of the potatoes in the container, or which cannot be removed without the loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area. Any one of the following defects or any combination of defects, the seriousness of which exceeds the maximum allowed for any one defect, shall be considered a serious damage.

(a) Dirt—when the general appearance of the potatoes in the container is seriously affected by tubers badly caked with dirt; or other foreign matter which seriously affects the appearance of the potatoes.

(b) Cuts—When both ends are clipped or when more than an estimated one-fourth (¼) of the potato is cut away from one end, or when the remaining portion of the clipped potato weighs less than six ounces. Other cuts which seriously affect the appearance of the individual potato or which cannot be removed without a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including the peel ocvering defective area.

(c) Shriveling—When the potato is excessively shriveled, spongy, or flabby.

(d) Surface Scab—Which covers an area of more than 50 per cent of the surface of the potato in the aggregate.

(e)—Pitted Scab—Which affects the appearance of the potato to a greater extent than the amount of surface scab permitted, or causes a loss of more than 10 per cent of the total weight of the potato including peel covering defective area.

Potatoes at Any Meal

Bureau of Human Nutrition—U. S. D. A.

BREAKFAST

It may be a far cry from the days when your gradnmother served fried potatoes every morning for breakfast but it's still a safe bet that your family too, will like potatoes for breakfast if they are whipped up into pancakes or scones, used to extend the ham or other meats in a delicious hash, or fried crisp and brown. Here's how you make these dishes:

Potato Pancakes

Grate 2 cups raw potatoes and put immediately into ¼ cup of mlk. Add 1 egg, beaten slightly, 2 tablespoons flour, 1 teaspoon salt, pepper, and 1 teaspoon finely chopped onion. Drop from a tablespoon onto a greased frying pan. Cook until well browned and crisp on both sides. Serve hot.

Potato Griddle Scones

2 cups sifted flour
1 teaspoon salt
3 teaspoons baking powder
2 tablespoons fat
1 cup cold mashed potatoes
1 egg, beaten
⅓ cup milk (about)

Sift together flour, salt. and baking powder. Cut in fat with 2 knives or a pastry blender. Blend in the potatoes. Mix egg and milk; add to first mixture. Mix slightly. Rool ⅜-inch thick and cut into squares. Bake slowly on a hot greased griddle or frying pan. Turn several times to cook through. Makes 10 to 12.

For main dish, pour creamed leftover meat or fish or vegetables over the scones.

Southern Hash

Start with cooked meat and gravy or meat broth. Or, to take the place of gravy or meat broth, dissolve 1 or 2 bouillon cubes in water. Cut the meat in small pieces and brown it in fat. Add diced raw or cooked potatoes, sliced onions, and green pepper, and brown. Add the gravy or broth,

and cook slowly on top of the stove, or bake the hash in the oven until it is brown over thhe top. Cut in squares and top with a poached egg.

Fried Potatoes, Country Style

Peel, and slice thin, enough raw potatoes to make 1 quart. Put in a frying pan with 2 tablespoons of melted fat or meat drippings. Cover closely. Cook over medium heat 10 to 15 minutes or until browned on the bottow. Turn and brown on the other side. If desired, brown a little chopped onion in the fat before adding the potatoes.

LUNCHEON

All housewives like to make luncheon the "easy meal" of the day. Still, at least one hot dish should be served and that one hot dish might well be good nourishing potato soup, fish chowder, a baked potato with margarine or butter, or a "dressed-up" baked potato in which ground meat leftovers, deviled ham, or grated cheese has been mixed. Some recipes for these dishes follow:

Quick Potato Soup

3 cups cubed potatoes
2 tablespoons chopped onion
2 tablespoons fat
1½ cups boiling water
4 cups milk
1½ teaspoons sald
Pepper

Cook the potatoes, onion, and fat in the water until the potatoes are tender. Add the milk, salt and pepper. Heat and serve.

Fish Chowder

1½ pounds fresh cod, haddock, or any other large fish
2 cups diced potatoes
1 cup diced carrots
1 quart water
¼ pound salt pork, diced
1 onion, chopped
2 tablespoons flour
1 pint milk
Salt
Pepper

Cut the fish into small pieces and remove the bones and skin. Cook fish, potatoes, and carrots in the water for 15 minutes. Fry the salt pork until crisp, remove from the fat, cook the onions in the fat for a few minutes, add the flour, stir until well blended, and add to the milk. Add this mixture to the fish and vegetables, add the salt and pepper, stir frequently, and simmer for 10 minutes longer. Add more seasoning if necessary, and serve over crackers.

Baked Potatoes

Wash and dry potatoes of uniform size. Bake in a hot oven (425° F.) 40 to 60 minutes or until tender. If you want the skin to be soft, rub a little fat on the potato before baking. Cut crosscross gashes in the skin of the baked potato on one side. Then pinch the potato so that some of the soft inside pops up through the opening. Drop in meat drippings, butter, or margarine; sprinkle with paprika, if desired, and serve hot.

Stuffed Baked Potatoes

Cut large baked potatoes in half lengthwise. Scoop out the inside. Mash, add fat and seasonings, stir in hot milk and beat until fluffy. Stir in chopped cooked meat or grated cheese. Stuff back into potato shells and brown in hot oven. Serve with a tossed green salad and beverage.

THE EVENING MEAL

Dinner or supper is a meal most families look forward to. Potatoes play an important part in that meal and rightly so. Now with more roast beef, we may again enjoy those delicious roast brown potatoes; or the main dish may be potato scallop. Perhaps the potatoes will be mashed or boiled in their jackets, or mashed potatoes may be used to garnish a meat pie. There is a right way and a wrong way to cook potatoes even if they are just plain boiled potatoes. Try cooking them in the following ways to insure getting the most of their good food value.

Boiled in Jackets

First of all scrub the potatoes, then drop them into a kettle of boiling water . . . enough to cover them. Cook covered until tender; drain at once so the potatoes won't get waterlogged.

Peel and season with table fat, meat drippings, or gravy, salt and pepper to taste. Or eat skins and all if they are small new potatoes.

Potato Scallop

6 medium-sized potatoes
2 tablespoons flour
1½ teasnoons salt
Pepper
2 tablespoons fat
2 cups hot milk

Peel and slice the potatoes. Put a layer of potatoes in a greased baking

Continued on page twenty-two

Potatoes at Any Meal—

Continued from page twenty

dish. Sprinkle with part of flour, salt, and pepper. Dot with fat. Repeat until all the potatoes are used. Pour in the milk—use very fresh milk or it may curdle. Bake in a moderate over (350° F.) for 1 hour or until the potatoes are tender and browned on top. Add more milk if the potatoes get dry.

Quick Mashed

Peel 6 medium-sized hot cooked potatoes. Mash thoroughly and quickly. Beat in hot milk a little at a time until potatoes are fluffy and smooth. Season with salt and pepper. If desired, add fat, finely chopped green pepper, pimento, chives, or onion.

Roast Potatoes

Peel medium-sized potatoes and place around meat in roasting pan during the last hour or hour and a half of cooking the meat. Turn and baste potatoes occasionally with meat drippings.

THE OUTDOOR MEAL

With fewer out-of-town vacations, there has been more back-yard vacationing with meals prepared in the barbecue pit or on the grill. Potatoes baked in the ashes or potato salad prepared previously adds zest and goodness to these meals. Here is a recipe for potato salad—hot or cold.

Potato Salad

Hot.—Cook ¾ cup diced salt pork until crisp. Add ¼ cup vinegar, ¼ cup water, 1 medium-sized chopped onion, and 1 quart cubed cooked potatoes. Season with salt and pepper. Heat well.

Cold.—Slice or dice cold cooked potatoes. Season with salt, chopped onion, and salad dressing. If desired, add sliced hard-cooked eggs.

THE BETWEEN MEAL SNACK

More gas is in order—therefore, more get-togethers. Still not enough domestic help so no elaborate parties are scheduled. But there's always your favorite beverage and potato chips for stimulating sociability.

Yes, potatoes fit into any meal. When you eat them you get some of your vitamin C requirement as well as some of the B vitamins. And of course, you get iron and other minerals and starch. Remember that a medium-sized potato has no more calories than an apple or a banana—about 100. If you are watching your weight, remember it isn't the potato—it's what you put on it—the gravy, the butter, that adds up calories. Eat more of these energy-giving, economical potatoes.

BLUE LABEL

Potato Silage

All potato minded experiment stations are working on new uses for potatoes, especially low grade potatoes, figuring on the time not many years hence when potatoes may be in surplus. One interesting experiment is being run in Colorado.

Potatoes were ensiled in three ways. 1—Four parts raw potatoes, one part dry corn powder by weight run thru an ensilage cutter. 2—Four parts raw potatoes, one part alfalfa run thru an ensilage cutter. 3—Cooked thirty-five minutes by steam.

This silage was fed to beef cattle in the feed lot, and at the same time they compared dehydrated potato meal with ground corn and beet pulp. Another experiment included adding cotton seed meal and dehydrated potato meal to barley and checking that against regular grain rations.

Results

The results of these experiments must be considered as indications rather than conclusions.

1. Dehydrated potato meal gave excellent results in this cattle-feeding test.

2. Raw potatoes chopped and combined with dry corn fodder or alfalfa hay made high quality silage that compared favorably with corn silage. Best results were obtained when cottonseed meal was fed in the ration.

3. Heifers fed cooked potato silage made good gains.

4. In this experiment, potatoes showed a feed replacement value ranging up to about 55c per bushel.

5. Yearling heifers fattened in a short feeding period, dressed a high percentage of "good" carcasses with only a few carcasses grading "commercial," showing that good beef for wartime use can be produced quickly with these rations.

HARVEST IN THE NORTHWEST

Delayed potato harvest in northwestern counties has become serious. Very little digging was done before October, a month later than normally.

Seedling G51—Ivan Miller begins digging in earnest October 4. Three 2 row diggers "Roll-out-the-Spuds." Above shows Ivan's operations in full swing with 400 acres to go. G51 was clean, well shaped, good size with pleasing appearance.

Lynn Sill—October 4th begins digging his beautiful crop of White Rurals which averaged well over 390 bu. per acre in this 55 acre field. Four thousand bushel were dug the first day. Lynn and Mac Heirdman talk over market and crop conditions.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

STONEY CREEK FAIR

SOMERSET COUNTY

The All American Food—Blair Walker, President (right) and Jack Frye, Vice-President of the Stoney Creek F.F.A. Chapter.

The Stoney-Creek Community Fair, September 27-28, in spite of most discouraging weather was a most successful one in the light of educational demonstration and displays presented to interested patrons of the community. The Future Farmer Chapter "set-up" an educational display depicting the value of the potato as a food and placed upon display thirteen accepted varieties of potatoes commonly grown in the eastern United States. The most outstanding in size, color and shape was the Association's new seedling, HU23-ME, which promises to be one of the Pennsylvania white skin varieties.

In addition to the Educational display, Agriculture Instructor, Jos. Shelly, had C. F. H. Wuesthof, Secretary-Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, put on a grading demonstration and school on the school grounds for everybody to observe just how easily **Blue Label** Potatoes can be graded and packed in paper peck packages. The secretary explained briefly the simplicity of the cooperative marketing "set-up" and how easily growers could avail themselves of this worthwhile service.

—BLUE—LABEL—

"If business, government, agriculture and labor can work together and think daringly, the sky will be the only limit to American production and we shall have only to solve the problem of distribution; that can be done, too, if we four work together. Selfishness is not only morally wrong but in the long run it just doesn't work. If the bell tolls for labor or agriculture or government, it tolls also for business."—Eric Johnston, U. S. C. of C.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

—BLUE LABEL—

Since Last Issue of GUIDE POST

Andrew P. Petro, Columbia
Gordon Hay, Somerset
Wm. U. Hodgson, Crawford
David Y. Stoltzfus, Chester
Juniata FFA Chapter, Huntingdon
George Ernst, Luzerne
D. W. Siegfried, Luzerne
C. W. Billings, Erie
Carl Gindlesperger, Somerset
J. A. Young, Lycoming
H. E. Edwards, Lackawanna
V. Ross Nicodemus, Blair
Howard Johnson, Columbia
Brion & Goodall, Tioga
Andy Zolka, Warren
Owen G. Glessner, Somerset
H. E. Hallman, Maryland
J. C. McGough, Cambria
Earl J. Brown, Schuylkill
Russell Gerhard, Carbon
Paul L. Pierce, Jefferson
Samuel Hares, Venango
Otto R. Anderson, Mercer
Harry Horn, Columbia
Dalton S. Walker, Somerset
Everett Vine, Ohio
Granville D. Krause, Lehigh
Joe Sutton, Cambria
Jamison Bros., Bucks
W. C. Wescott, Erie
Michael H. Cheslock, Luzerne
Howard Glase, Northampton
Clarence Miller, Allegheny
L. P. Whitmire, Butler
Mrs. Marie Pomeroy, Luzerne
Nelson E. Irwin, Clearfield
S/Sgt. Howard Washburn, Michigan
Blair Ross, Somerset
Arnold Roberts, Erie
Walter B. Ritter, Berks
Herbert Jaukovich, Cambria
John Pituch, Jr., Erie
G. W. Robinson, Erie
Frederic Herd, Northampton
Carl Shaffer, Columbia
Howard Waring, Crawford
Quincy Tait, Mercer
Ralph M. Bloom, Somerset
A. C. Spoerlein, Somerset
William F. Bleiler, Lehigh
Jacob Blough, Somerset
Carl Smith, Erie
Mrs. Rose Murren, York
H. Raymond Stoner, Lancaster
Thomas Storm, Cambria
Lester Schantz, Lehigh
Wilburt Reno, Mercer
Mrs. James Crowell, Erie
Harlan B. Phelps, Tioga
Charles Shaffer, Schuylkill
Leon Wagner, Forrest
William H. Ringler, Somerset
Ralph B. Ferry, Bedford
E. J. Westrick, Cambria
Frank Westrick, Sr., Cambria
John Blcom, Cambria
Ira C. Fritz, Somerset
George E. Fritz, Somerset
Victor Glessner, Somerset
Earl Karlheim, Cambria
Frank Helwig, Columbia
Milton J. Snyder, Lehigh
Robert E. Peters, Lehigh
Vernon Reibson, Sullivan
Walter E. Shaffer, Schuylkill
Leon J. Knepper, Somerset
Fred W. Ross, Somerset
Ben Walters, Tioga
Clair Cunningham, Cambria
J. F. Shaffer, Somerset
James Pasike, Jr., Cambria
Emerson Knepper, Somerset
I. G. Pickworth, Somerset
Vernon Shockey, Somerset
Fred Bloom, Cambria
William Sones, Lycoming

Addresses Conference—

Continued from page eleven

Pennsylvania potatoes are available, we could sell nearly twice as many Pennsylvania potatoes as we now are raising.

I hope that my reign as Pennsylvania potato blossom queen will witness a substantial increase in the local demand for Pennsylvania potatoes and I want to thank the Pennsylvania Potato Growers for giving me this opportunity to serve the potato industry of our commonwealth.

The Crop Report Summary

(Thousand Bushels)

State	10 year average	1944	October 1, 1945
Maine	46,102	53,868	58,025
Long Island (N. Y.)	11,316	10,695	19,600
Upstate (N. Y.)	17,279	15,750	10,530
Pennsylvania	22,318	19,140	17,825
Michigan	23,669	18,360	19,550
Dakotas	15,265	24,425	25,914
18 Surplus States	257,604	271,479	303,264
30 Late States	296,237	298,964	338,148

A potato crop of 435,395,000 bushels is indicated for the nation. In 1944 the crop amounted to 379,436,000 bushels and production averaged 375,091,000 bushels during the ten year ('34-'43) period. Even though the prospective national crop increased two and a half million bushels during September there was a drop of about three million bushels in Maine. A crop of 303,264,000 bushels is indicated for the eighteen surplus states compared with 271,479,000 bushels in 1944 and a ten year average of 257,000,000 bushels. 328,581,000 bushels was the 1943 record crop estimate.

Late potatoes in Pennsylvania made considerable gain in size and weight during September. This was particularly true in western counties. Harvesting operations have been hampered and there is some concern in areas that the crop might not all be dug before freezing weather. Blight rot has appeared in some areas but generally the crop has good size and of fair tonnage. Competing states complain of small and rough tubers.

Maine, Michigan, Idaho and the Dakotas complain of weather conditions hampering digging operations together with serious labor shortage. Prisoners of war, Jamacians and Mexicans have been put into service with telling effect.

— LIFE MEMBERSHIPS —

AN EVER-GROWING GROUP

Suggestion — Send Yours "Pronto."

J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Somerset
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Homer C. Bartter, Ohio
Walter H. Schlegel, Northampton
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Haskell Kune, Clearfield
D. E. Lewis, West Virginia
Paul R. Yoder, Chester
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Andy Boleratz, Erie
Foster Blough, Potter
Norman Strohl, Carbon
Wilmer Mensch, Columbia
Karl Uffelman, Dauphin
Walter Gibbons, Lancaster
Lynn Sill, Erie
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
V. A. Holtz, Cambria
Joseph Fisher, Somerset
Oscar Lauger, Warren
W. R. Campbell, West Virginia
A. J. Troyer, Ohio
A. C. Harwood, Erie
Harvey S. Lute, Cambria
George D. Henninger, Northampton
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
Leon Epler, Northumberland
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E. S. Grimm, Franklin
McPherson Bros., York
Harry Stockdale, Ohio
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Francis Yahner, Cambria
Edgar R. Spory, Somerset
Gust Gorka, Erie
Omar Umble, Chester
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Barrie Wilson, Erie
Mervin Hanes, York
Robert H. Henninger, Northampton
Harold J. Henninger, Lehigh
R. N. Benjamin, Dauphin
Roy B. Hoober, Lancaster
Harry Long, Warren
Joseph M. Schwabenbauer, Elk
Douglas Fisher, Potter
Mathias C. Whitenight, Columbia
Harry Peterson, Crawford
John J. Petro, Jr., Columbia
Harvey Lute, Indiana
R. K. Wagner, Indiana
Ed. Fisher, Potter
J. K. Mast, Lancaster
Rollin E. Wright, Potter

Around the World—

Continued from page thirteen

tatoes to the colony's sponsor, Sir Walter Raleigh, who grew them on his estate in County Cork, Ireland, and introduced them to the court of Queen Elizabeth as "Irish Potatoes."

Planes now span distances greater than Cardan's first journey in less than a day, and the potato, in dehydrated form, was often a wartime passenger. He was an accomplished paratrooper, too, for when food dropped to our fighting men, one of the first to make a landing was that always-welcome globe-trotter, the potato!

Next time you eat potatoes, remember: Somewhere, every day in the year, potatoes are being planted and harvested.

The name "spud" takes its letters from the abbreviation of the "Society for the Prevention of Unwholesome Diet"—an 18th century group who blamed virtually all human illness on eating of the potato in an effort to discourage its growth.

The potato industry, in spite of handicaps, did a magnificent job throughout the war, in helping meet increased food requirements. Last year's production alone would fill a train 5200 miles long.

VISION
The **GUIDE POST**
PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS

The Hershey Experimental Kitchen

Searching for new uses and new values for Potatoes—this goes steadily on in laboratories, in schools and in kitchens throughout Pennsylvania

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

"The Potato Harvester" on Dr. Nixon's Farm, State College, Pa.

ALFRED STAUFFER

Honey Brook Pennsylvania

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by
THE PENNSYLVANIA COOPERATIVE POTATO GROWERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Two conferences merely to explore the possibilities have already been held. The representation from the Home Economists is most impressive. The audience which they can reach on short notice and influence for good is staggering.

If commodity groups, like the Potato Growers' and others, can be thrown into high gear with state Home Economists and food distributors just to remove seasonal peak surpluses or distressed crops, an incalcuable good will result in our economy.

For example, it was brought out in discussion in one of the conferences that if a commodity group, such as the Potato Growers', fruit growers or cabbage growers, has a seasonal glut, Home Economists and dietitians in radio, schools, adult education, institutions, hotel and restaurant associations, chain stores and other food distributors could reach virtually the state's entire ten million people in a week's time.

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If by persuasion, education or any other honorable means, per capita consumption could be upped by even ten pounds per person, for the emergency, over a million and a half bushels of commodity would be removed from its distressed role. There has never been a season in Pennsylvania in which the removal of a hundred million pounds of a given farm commodity during a peak or distressed period would not pull the producer out of a hole with no hardship on the consumer. Statistics show that most often, when the farmers are dammed up with peak production in perishables the consuming public has lost its appetite for that very commodity When potatoes or cabbage is cheap only the better grades sell. Apparently on the other hand there are no substitutes for highly priced or scarce commodities.

Right now observe the "half rations" of both potatoes and cabbage in all eating places. Both crops are supposedly surplus, then why curtail the consumption of these when there are no substitutes that will as economically provide sustenance and stamina and satisfy the appetite of the entire family.

Basic to any permanent program for increasing consumption of any commodity by the general public is the truth about its food value and health building proclivities. There is no more opportune time nor no greater need for a re-exploration into the truth about food and food values. Think of the fortunes women are spending in drug stores that they owe to their faces.

When the truth is all revealed the potato will take the place of a lot of tablets found on the shelves of drugstores.

Circumstantial evidence already shows that the large percapita consumers of potatoes "stand-out" with many plus and minus characteristics.

Science has already shown many other values possessed by the potato than merely its value as a food and its palatability.

These values need to be restated and new values discovered and dramatized to the public. What is needed most is a scientific scrutiny of most of our local fruits and vegetables in the light of substitutes of pink pills for pale people.

When this is done potato growers need not fear the high place the potato will continue to occupy as a food for health and stamina.

It has been ten years since the potato Joint Marketing Conference was inaugurated. By the time you have read this two million pecks will have gone to the consumer already this season. This is the result of the cooperative efforts of Chain Store distributors and the cooperative Potato Association telling the truth about the Pennsylvania Blue Label Package.

What a powerful influence for good could result in a joint conference of Food Distributors, Potato Growers and Home Economists in promulgating the truth about the potato.

On the inside front cover is an illustration of the Stauffer Potato Harvester as it was being tested on my farm. We were all anxious to see just how this machine would work out under commercial conditions.

The Potato Harvester with a tractor, driver, operator, a bagger and four pickers harvested and put into bags four rows of potatoes (50 bushels) in thirty-eight minutes.

With a two row digger, a tractor driver and a digger operator four adjacent rows to the above were dug in five minutes and the same four pickers picked them into bags in fifty-five minutes. The comparative cost stacks up about as follows:

Harvester—

Seven people put fifty bushels into bags in thirty-eight minutes, or a total of 266 minutes, at 60c per hour. The cost per bushel was $.053.

Two row digger—

Two men five minutes plus four pickers 55 minutes, or a total of 230, at 60c per hour, the cost per bushel was $.046. The relative cost per bushel story is not all the story.

The tractor and digger operator preferred to use the two row digger—why? because we go faster. Four rows in five minutes compared with four rows in thirty eight minutes. The four pickers preferred to use the harvester. Why? Because it was easier. We ride while we use our hands. There is no strain on the back. People could be employed to pick from the harvester that never could be induced to pick from the ground. Another thing in favor of the harvester (as the figures show) harvested, 50 bushels or four rows in 266 minutes. Convention two row for same area, same bushels 230 minutes (single row digger ten minutes longer) if one is limited to a crew of six or seven the harvester way is the easy way.

Another thing the Stauffer harvester has a real digger—one more thing for the family size potato patch 8-10 acres. Ma, pa, uncle, aunt and the kids will make a gala job out of potato digging—which you and I can remember was one of the drudgeries that made boys leave the farm.

With conventional commercial digging where pickers are available the harvester is up against it.

Four rows in five minutes as compared with four rows in thirty-eight minutes is the reason for **digging crews** to prefer the conventional digging. If there are enough pickers available to keep a two row digger going for eight hours a lot of ground can be covered. Where some of our larger growers are keeping even two or three such diggers running, it looks like a lot of harvesters if one two row digger will make the time of from five to seven harvesters. There are only a little over 66,000 Potato Growers in the entire country growing over 10 acres of potatoes. There are well on to 500,000 farmers growing from 1 to 10 acres.

Potatoes May Become Basic

Do We Agree?

There is considerable agitation to make potatoes a Basic crop instead of a Stegall crop. Crops regarded as Basic are automatically supported by government appropriations for two years after January 1st after war is officially ended. Crops under the Stegall amendment are supported for the same length of time except such support must be voted by Congress. In either case the same control measures, as far as acreage, allotments, etc., would apply. Taking potatoes from the Stegall class and putting them in the Basic class might give more confidence to the industry as a whole and put it on a firmer basis during those critical years.

Senator Brewster of Maine has introduced a bill to make potatoes a Basic crop. Space does not permit a copy of all the details but it provides not only for the government support but also for farm allotments of acreage based on national requirements. As far as we know no hearings have been called on the bill but potato growers in all sections are going to watch it progress.

Refresher Schools

Refresher Schools organized for present licensed grade supervisors and prospective supervisors and packers have been held in seven important growing and marketing areas. One hundred-twenty-four supervisors or thirty per cent attended these refreshed schools, forty-one new supervisors were qualified and licensed while eighty interested growers attended. These schools conducted under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' with the splendid cooperation of R. B. Donaldson of the Agricultural Extension Service and E. R. Pheil of the Bureau of Markets Inspection Service called together 245.

The lecture method of instruction was discouraged and practically eliminated

The FIRST BAG of the Association's BLUE LABEL Potatoes to be stamped under our system of inspection service. We have come a long way since 1936.

while the demonstration and action method was resorted to. After introductions were made Association Secretary Wuesthoff led off the sessions with an outline of the purpose of the meeting and how it was to be organized. Mr. Donaldson explained the necessity of a good pack and showed what was acceptable, borderline and to be rejected when making U. S. No. 1, 2 inch minimum or Blue Label packs. Blue Labels were packed by present and prospective supervisors and thoroughly inspected and criticized.

Care in handling potatoes together with timely suggestions on efficiency of

Continued on page twenty-seven

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Refresher Schools

Refresher Schools organized for present licensed grade supervisors and prospective supervisors and packers have been held in seven important growing and marketing areas. One hundred-twenty-four supervisors or thirty per cent attended these refreshed schools, forty-one new supervisors were qualified and licensed while eighty interested growers attended. These schools conducted under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' with the splendid cooperation of R. B. Donaldson of the Agricultural Extension Service and E. R. Pheil of the Bureau of Markets Inspection Service called together 245.

The lecture method of instruction was discouraged and practically eliminated

The FIRST BAG of the Association's BLUE LABEL Potatoes to be stamped under our system of inspection service. We have come a long way since 1936.

while the demonstration and action method was resorted to. After introductions were made Association Secretary Wuesthoff led off the sessions with an outline of the purpose of the meeting and how it was to be organized. Mr. Donaldson explained the necessity of a good pack and showed what was acceptable, borderline and to be rejected when making U. S. No. 1, 2 inch minimum or Blue Label packs. Blue Labels were packed by present and prospective supervisors and thoroughly inspected and criticized.

Care in handling potatoes together with timely suggestions on efficiency of

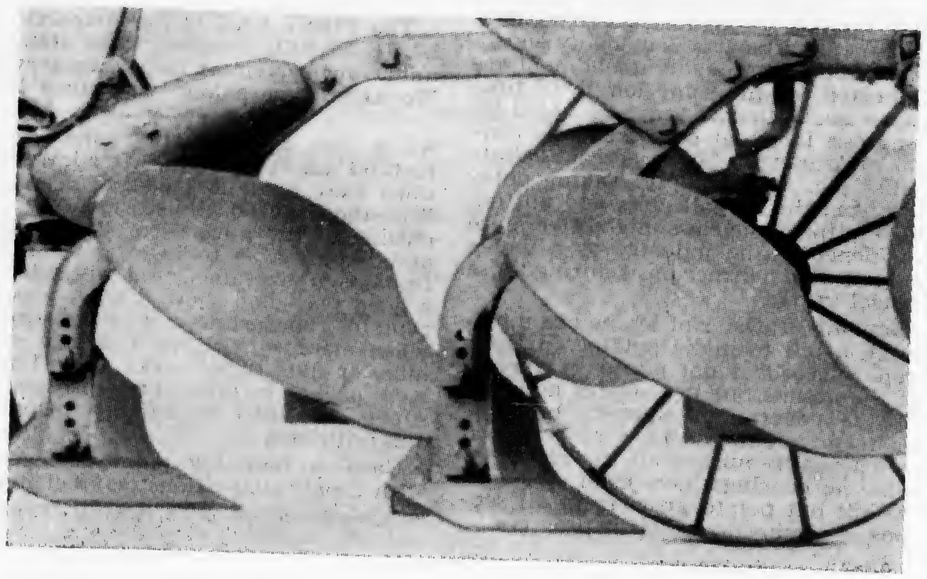
Continued on page twenty-seven

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE "TNT" PLOW

WORMS "EYE-VIEW"

The Over and Under Plow to be known to the trade as the TNT plow has been demonstrated but only a few times and in only a few places to date. Some twenty scientists, research workers, manufacturers demonstrated this sensational plow to representatives of the farm press namely: The GUIDE POST, Country Gentleman, The Rural New Yorker, Farm Journal, Pennsylvania Farmer, Successful Farming, Ohio Farmer and Cappers. Is seems to be the baby of our old friend, holder of the Potato Growers' Award of Merit for the popular Raydex Plow, "Ruddy" J. Altgelt. This plow we believe is really sensational—it keeps the surface soil, trash, humus up where it belongs and at the same time loosens that plow pan to a depth of 12 to 14 inches. It makes a root bed ideal for potato production which absorbs and holds moisture and permits maximum capillary moisture movement. This plow has much to recommend it but may have some drawbacks but we can't see them now.



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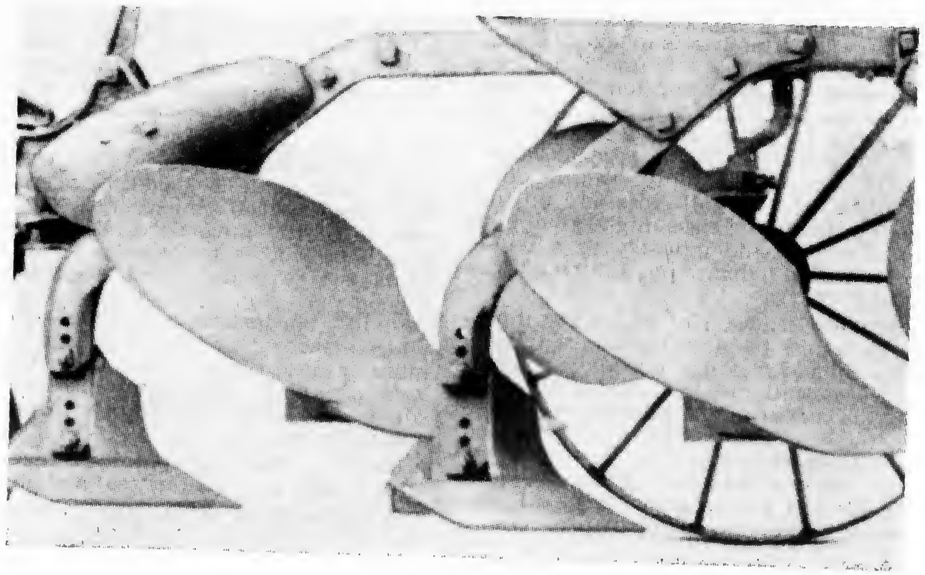

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

POTATO CONSUMPTION CONFERENCE

At least twice daily in ample quantity in the home and in the restaurant.

Pennsylvania's Potato Consumption committee consisting of key Home Economists, officers of the Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association and the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council met in a most important session in the interest of increased potato consumption at Harrisburg, November 2nd with Chairman Dr. A. Pauline Sanders, of the Department of Public Instruction, presiding. This was the second meeting of the committee called to ascertain what is being done and what could be done to encourage intelligent and wise use of a surplus crop of potatoes. The Country this year is faced with the task of consuming 45,000,000 bushels of potatoes more than normally. This increase in production has been due to war impetus; factories could shut down and production stopped immediately but not so with agricultural production. Therefore, we are faced with the huge problem of consuming wisely a big crop of high quality potatoes.

Home economics leaders, chain stores and independent stores appreciate the situation facing the potato industry and are making every effort to solve the problem through their various avenues of activity. Dr. Pauline Sanders, Chief of Home Economics Education in the Department of Public Instruction organized an outstanding committee which is in a position to give valuable assistance to the consuming public and farmer producers. The following constitutes the Food Advisory Committee:

Chairman, Dr. A. Pauline Sanders, Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg.

Miss Dorothy O'Brien, Hospital Dietitian, Scranton.

Miss Agnes Brumbaugh, Agricultural Extension, State College.

Dr. Pauline B. Mack, Ellen H. Richards Institute, State College.

Miss Lydia Tarrant, Agricultural Extension, State College.

Mrs. Mary Griffith, Home Management Farm Security.

Mrs. Anna dePlanter Bowes, Nutrition Department of Health, Harrisburg.

Miss Anne Sutter, Utility Hall, Duquesne Light Company.

Miss Margaret Riegel, Teacher Trainer, State College.

Miss Bessie Reitz, Vocational Home Economics, Sunbury.

Mrs. Marian Kemp, American Stores, Philadelphia.

C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Secretary, Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Williamsport, Penna.

Dr. E. L. Nixon, Agricultural Supervisor, Penna. Chain Store Council.

L. D. Odhner, Director Penna. Chain Store Council, Philadelphia.

P. Daniel Frantz, Sales Manager, Penna. Cooperative Potato Growers' Association, Allentown, Penna.

Most significant reports were heard from each member of the committee. **Miss Brumbaugh** hoped to make a detailed report of this and subsequent meetings before the Pennsylvania Nutrition Council December 6th and mentioned also that leaflets stressing potato uses and recipes were being printed and would be released soon.

Dr. Pauline Beery Mack reported that an eleven year study on 10,000 individuals by the Ellen Richards Institute, is now being scientifically analysed. These human nutrition studies include testing the foods selected by individuals, meat and potato consumption, balance of food etc. Findings show that not enough potatoes are eaten and that people do not become over weight by eating potatoes. Dr. Mack stressed the potentialities of the institute she represents.

Mrs. Griffith assured the committee that her corps of fifteen Home Supervisors would give the program 100 per cent support. To date her co-workers have stressed the use of potatoes in various forms and have advised their families on preparations and menus.

Mrs. Anna dePlanter Bowes, Nutritionist of the Pennsylvania Department of Health, outlined her departments activity through public health personnel of the state. Potatoes and recent research on preserving their food values are being stressed continuously says Mrs. Bowes. Her department has just prepared a special leaflet on The Potato for state-wide distribution.

Miss Bessie Reitz reported a current project on "The Well Groomed Potato" now being carried out in Northumberland county. She hoped Future Homemakers would become as skilled in using potatoes as the Future Farmers have become in producing them.

Mrs. Marian Kemp of the American Stores, speaking for Home Economics in Radio, told of her programs possibilities in the interest of intelligent and increased consumption of The Potato. Her broadcasts over WCAU frequently give potatoes special seasonal mention.

At the conclusion of the meeting it was unanimously decided to jointly **stress the use of potatoes** and **their value** as **human food;** to **contribute monthly releases** to the GUIDE POST, the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association's publication; to encourage sub-committee activity and to meet again January 25th to report progress.

The following sub-committees were appointed:

Publicity—L. D. Odhner, C. F. H. Wuesthoff.

Coordination—Frantz, Griffith, Odhner, Sanders.

Research—Mack, Nixon, Bowes.

Education—Reitz, Riegel, Lloyd, Sanders, McDermott

Recipes—Sutter, Kemp, Tarrant, Brumbaugh, O'Brien.

The acticity and potentialities of this Food Advisory Committee are most encouraging. Through the cooperation of agencies, institutions and organizations represented the consuming public will progressively learn the place of the Potato, the all American food, in our every day diet.

This committee is in a position to demonstrate what can be done in a coordinated way to assist a $500,000,000 industry in distress. Today potatoes are a surplus crop to the extent of millions upon millions of bushels, yet as Dr. Nixon suggested, a few more pounds of potatoes on the country's dinner table weekly and this surplus would vanish. In subsequent years other calamities might face consumers and producers—here is an opportunity to show what can be done.

Goals of the Committee

1. Urge inclusion of the potato in family and institutional diets.
2. Popularize nutrition facts concerning potatoes.
3. Develop new uses and new recipes.
4. Define better consumer practices.
5. Correct common misconceptions concerning potatoes.
6. Prepare news releases, scripts, bulletins, etc. on potatoes.

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA
M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA
F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA
P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

ATTENTION — Growers and Distributors

We would call your attention to the definite location and establishment of the Association's Sales Offices, for the purpose of facilitating increased packing and marketing of Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes. Growers and buyers in need of assistance and supplies are urged to contact their nearest office.

Northeastern Area—
Roy R. Hess, Manager
Stillwater, Penna.
Phone—Benton 34R14

Southeastern Area—
Hiram A. Frantz, Manager
702 N. Eighth Street
Allentown, Penna.
Phone—Allentown 3-1765

Southwestern Area—
Joseph H. Fisher, Manager
611 Swank Building
Johnstown, Penna.
Phone—Johnstown 82271

Northwestern Area—
J. M. Hindman, Manager
11½ Gardner Building
Union City, Penna.
Phone—Union City 200

North Central Area—
Richard Mansfield, Manager
207 Main Street
Coudersport, Penna.
Phone—560

—BLUE LABEL—

Pennsylvania is a Great State

Tell Someone About It

Northeastern Census Shows

Preliminary reports on the farm census conducted earlier this year reveal significant increases in both numbers and total acreage of farms in the North Atlantic area.

Since the last agricultural census of 1940, the number of farms in New England, New York and Pennsylvania jumped from 457,455 to 498,714, an increase of more than nine percent.

At the same time, acreage under production in the region increased from 45,135,944 in 1940 to 48,230,973, an increase of almost seven per cent.

The most spectacular gains were made in the New England States, where the number of farms mounted from 135,190 five years ago to 166,957 in 1945 and the acreage increased from 13,371,473 to 15,126,532.

Pennsylvania has **gained** 9,372 farms and **788,226** acres in farmlands since 1940, according to preliminary figures compiled in the 1945 Census of Agriculture, by the Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce.

The number of farms in the 67 Pennsylvania counties increased **5.5** per cent, from 169,027 farms in 1940 to 178,399 farms in 1945, while farm acreage increased **5.4** per cent, from 14,594,134 acres in 1940 to 15,382,360 acres in 1945. The average size of farms decreased slightly, from 86.3 to 86.2 acres.

Greatest gain in number of farms was to Westmoreland county, which added more than 1,500 farms while gaining more than 57,000 farm acres. Greatest loss in number of farms, 632, was to Berks county, which lost more than 14,000 farm acres.

Greatest gain in farm acreage, more than 90,000 acres, was to Bradford county, despite its loss of 128 farms. Greatest loss in farmlands, more than 18,000 acres, was to Wayne county, which also lost 380 farms.

PENNSYLVANIA IS A GREAT STATE . . . . Tell Someone About It.

Blue Label Movement

Now we are really **"going to town"** in the matter of Blue Label potato sales throughout the state. The report from our sales manager's office as of November 1st is as follows:

County	*Pecks*
Lehigh	205,359
Chester	116,610
Somerset	116,069
Lancaster	93,271
Carbon	91,584
Warren	83,125
Erie	81,767
Lycoming	80,779
Cambria	71,637
Schuylkill	62,854
Monroe	60,388
Potter	55,290
Crawford	37,950
Luzerne	32,954
Northumberland	30,944
Columbia	29,762
Berks	27,313
Centre	18,970
York	14,550
Venango	12,967
Northampton	11,485
Clinton	8,705
Lebanon	8,444
Huntingdon	8,500
Sullivan	5,722
Adams	3,622
Indiana	3,488
Tioga	3,063
Blair	2,500
Bradford	2,383
Bedford	1,050
Dauphin	800
Clarion	800
Union	632
	1,385,337

Blue Label Movement by Areas

	Peck Equivalents
Southeastern Area	488,700
Northeastern Area	331,982
Southwestern Area	293,638
North Central Area	54,557
Northwestern Area	216,460
Total to Nov. 1, 1945	1,385,337

—NOTICE—

PENNSYLVANIA POTATO GROWERS

FARM SHOW MEETINGS

Jan. 23-24, 1946—Harrisburg

"POTATOES"

THE VERSATILE FOOD

Anne Sutter, Utility Hall, Duquesne Light Company

"Potatoes, you say, are just potatoes? You have them every day?" Well, you can't dismiss this important vegetable so summarily. It is true that all too often potatoes are boiled, baked or fried—with an occasional creaming or mashing—and let go at that. It's too bad, really, because there are literally one hundred and one ways to prepare potatoes, or to use them in the preparation of other things...and the very fact that in so many, many homes they are used in the daily menus, makes it all the more urgent that their presentation should be varied in order not to dull the appetite for them.

Now please don't misunderstand me—don't think that I disapprove of boiled potatoes or fried or baked ones—not at all. I know of nothing that is better than a baked potato or light fluffy mashed potatoes.

The white potato, so often called the Irish Potato, has had quite a hectic career, and has stirred up a great deal of controversy ever since it was first discovered in America a few centuries ago. Yes, the so-called "Irish" potato is a native American vegetable, first unearthed in Chile, I believe, and it wasn't until after Sir Walter Raleigh introduced it into England some years later that it was known at all in the British Isles. The attachment of the name "Irish" to the white potato came about some time after its introduction into Ireland. Potatoes could be grown so profusely there that they were the means of saving the people from the terrible famines which they so frequently endured.

In many places the introduction of this new food encountered prejudices and misrepresentation, for it was ignorantly said to be the cause of leprosy and many sorts of fevers. Such was not the case, however, with the French king, Louis XVI, as it is reported that in order to popularize the potato in his country he wore the flower of the plant in his buttonhole.

In Paris and other parts of Northern France, fried potatoes (the original French-fried potatoes) are cooked and sold by street peddlers much as peanuts are here in this country. In Germany, flour used in making bread was obtained from the plant, and alcohol was also manufactured from it and used as a substitute for petrol in running motors.

Recurring food fads have also done their bit to discredit potatoes. At various times people have been urged to shun potatoes because they were "poisonous," because they were "acid-forming," and more recently, because they were "fattening." Fortunately we are now coming to our senses and definitely discarding this "omit potatoes for slimness" fad. The advice of nutritionists and food scientists has at last born fruit, and we have become convinced that potatoes, like all other carbohydrate foods, have their important place in the diet. It is to our advantage to include at least one potato daily. To our advantage in two ways: with an adequate amount of potatoes in our daily diet, we'll profit from a health standpoint, and secondly, we'll profit financially, since their cost is low.

Recent research shows that potatoes still retain much of their Vitamin C after they are cooked. Potatoes are rich in Vitamin B when the peel is left on, and are not entirely deficient in it even when they are peeled. We learn to that the potato is not hard to digest, and may be given to very young children when properly prepared.

In addition to its valuable starch content, the hundred calories provided by a medium-sized potato also come from protein—excellent quality protein. It is, therefore, especially important from a nutritive standpoint. The potato also provides minerals—calcium, phosphorus, and a noteworthy amount of body-building iron.

While I heartily advocate plenty of variety in the preparation and serving of potato dishes, the simple basic methods are the most prevalent...and I am bound to admit that if you serve baked potatoes prepared properly—or mashed potatoes whipped to a creamy fluffiness—or even a plain boiled potato, perfectly cooked—then you have something that should be enthusiastically received at your table. And although potato cookery is comparatively simple, still it does require thought and a certain amount of care. Part of the secret of complete success with potatoes is in the serving...hot potato dishes should be served piping hot...and they should be eaten as soon as they are served.

"Boiled" potatoes should be either steamed, or cooked in a small quantity of boiling salted water...never start cooking them in cold water. After they are all scrubbed, drop them into a saucepan and add only enough boiling water to cover the bottom of the utensil to a depth of two inches. Then cover them tightly and boil until tender when pierced with a fork. Salt—one tablespoonful for about seven medium-sized potatoes.

The following are some potato recipes which treat this friendly vegetable in a manner a little out of the ordinary. I'm sure you'll enjoy them.

POTATO LOAF

6 cups shredded, raw peeled potatoes
2 cups cold water
1 tablespoon salt
½ cup minced onion
¼ cup minced parsley
¼ cup minced pimiento
⅓ cup enriched flour
⅓ cup fat
½ teaspoon baking powder
1¾ teaspoons salt
2 eggs
½ cup bread crumbs

Grease a loaf pan and sprinkle the greased bottom and sides with crumbs. Combine 1 tablespoon salt and water. Shred potatoes into salted water and beat eggs until blended, using electric mixer. Sift flour; measure and sift again with baking powder and salt. Drain potatoes thoroughly; discard water. Dry them with an absorbent cloth. Combine all ingredients and pack into prepared loaf pan. Bake on rack in a preheated oven of 425 degrees for 15 minutes. Reset regulator to 350 degrees; bake for 45 minutes.

POTATOES, SICILIANA

8 or 10 medium sizzed Irish potatoes
¼ to ½ cup orange juice
2 teaspoons salt
1 teaspoon grated orange peel
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg

Scrub potatoes; place in a vessel with a tight fitting lid and add 1 inch of boiling water; cover. Place over high heat until steaming. Reduce heat to low. Cook for 30 minutes or until tender; drain. Peel potatoes and mash them, using the electric mixer. Add only sufficient orange juice to make them moist. Add salt and beat until light and fluffy. Pile in a serving dish and sprinkle with grated orange rind and nutmeg. Dot with butter or margarine. Brown under the broiler and serve. Note—Potatoes Sicilian are interesting to serve with veal or fowl.

BUTTER BAKED POTATO SLICES

6 or 8 medium sized potatoes
3 tablespoons butter or margarine
1 tablespoon salt

Scrub and peel potatoes; slice them crosswise on a slant about ¼-inch thick. Arrange them in a single layer on a shallow, greased pan so that they overlap slightly. Dot with butter or margarine. Bake on rack in a preheated oven of 350 degrees for 1 hour or until tender. Sprinkle with salt and place under broiler for 5 to 10 minutes or until crisp and brown.

Note—Use a shallow walled cookie pan.

3-HOUR POTATO ROLLS

1 cup cooked, riced potatoes
1 cake compressed yeast
½ cup lukewarm water
1 cup milk
¾ cup shortening
5 to 5½ cups enriched flour
2 eggs
½ cup sugar
2 teaspoons salt

Sift and measure flour. Crumble yeast in 2 tablespoons sugar; let stand 5 minutes. Dissolve yeast in lukewarm water. Scald milk over medium heat. Add shortening; cool to lukewarm. Beat eggs until light, using the electric mixer. Mix salt, eggs, sugar, yeast, potato and 1 cup flour with lukewarm milk, using the

Continued on page twenty-seven

MAKING "THE BLUE LABEL" GRADE

IMPORTANCE—Any worthwhile long time **Co-operative Marketing Program** is defiinitely dependent upon a **Quality Product**—acceptable to distributors, to Consumers and at the same time economically fair to Producers. Millions of **Blue Label** packages of potatoes have found their way into the housewife's kitchen because of our reputation for quality. Millions more will find their way into the hands of Distributors and Consumers only so long as these packages continue to be as represented, **U. S. No. 1, 2-inch minimum.** Competition has become so keen that not only must the pack be up to a standard but merchandising must come into play.

THE GRADING CREW—Just as World War II was won by **"everlasting teamwork of every Bloomin' Soul"** so will our Association's Marketing Program be won by the everlasting team work of **The Grading Crew** in every storage and warehouse throughout Pennsylvania. **The Crew,** captained by the Association's official grade supervisor has a **tremendous responsibility** in the scheme of things. Five, six or seven may easily constitute **The Crew.** The quality of the pile of potatoes to be packed and the number of bags to be packed will determine this number. **Each member** is important. Any **one member** can spoil the efficiency of operations and spoil "The Pack."

DUTIES OF CREW MEMBERS—(See sketch)

(A) The Grade Supervisor—over all supervision of **The Pack** as to size, quality and weight in the bag—he has the **know how.**

(B) The Shoveler—Handle potatoes carefully, **blend** large with small, keep potato **flow steady** and pick out the rots—good **judgment** counts.

(C) The Bagger—Place empties, remove filled bags from machine with an eye on **"the fill"** and place upon the scales—**speed** with **ease.**

(D) The Weigher—Fifteen-pounds and **six ounces** for each and every bag (double check scales) then place upon tieing rack—**no** guessing.

(E) The Tie-er—Crimp the bags **neatly** and twist ties with a turn and a half—he can turn out a **nice** package or otherwise.

(F) The Service Man, Off-bearer or Utility Man—Take away "pickouts," "size B's and stack or rack up pecks into neat piles that will not shift or fall over—he can keep things **running smoothly.**—C.F.H.W.

SOME LOCAL TESTS IN POTATO CULTURE

On October 10th a number of potato farmers, of the Southeast section of Pennsylvania, gathered in Carbon county to view the results of potato variety planting, and results of new insecticide spraying.

Thirteen varieties of potatoes, mostly new, were planted under the supervision of the State Extension Service; in an effort to find a variety with a better yield and more disease resistance. Several new varieties showed up exceptionally well, both as to yield and disease resistance. The first five were tops in four tests in the State.

Yields at Lehighton, Pa.

	Bu. per acre
Ontario	506.6
Sebago	499.8
Menominee	482.0
Houma	425.9
Kasota	437.8
Rural Russett	403.8
Katahdin	282.2
White Rural	420.6
Sequoia	406.3
Teton	436.8
Cayuga	348.1
Mesaba	333.1
Seneca	315.0

It is impossible to give an exact story here of all the different varieties, many of which you already know.

Three were bred especially to resist particular diseases. If the particular disease is prevalent on your farm, it is suggested you give them a trial, since each one is very new, and not much seed available, nor may they be suited in your locality; do not discard your old stand-by at once.

Ontario, the highest yielder in this planting, has been bred to be immune to scab and has proven in these tests to be almost so; only one potato with any scab was found in four test fields. It is a white skin potato, setting tubers about akin to Sebago and Katahdin. A long season potato.

Kasota, a red skin potato, a good yielder, no stem end rot; well worth a try if you are troubled with this disease.

Teton, a very good yielder, almost guaranteed against ring rot, a white variety not too smooth.

Spraying Against Insects

We have all read a lot about DDT. It will not kill all insects we had hoped it would, but it has shown how much damage leaf hoppers and flea beetles can do to potatoes, when many people thought it did not amount to much damage.

A test on Russets sprayed with Bordeaux and Arsenate yield 243 bushels. One spray of Bordeaux plus DDT costs $2.81 per acre, yield 289 bushels. Four sprays cost $11.24, yield 358 bushels.

It was stressed that it is still an unknown control against aphids and is not a remedy against blight. It must be used with less lime, in the Bordeaux, than the standared 8-8-100, giving best results with an 8-4-100 Bordeaux throughout the season of insect danger.

Be sure your DDT bears the name of a reliable manufacturer, and of known strength and use as directed.

Pennnsylvania Has Post-War Opportunities for Ex-Service Men

Pennsylvania has more farm people than any state but one—some of the best farm land in America. It produces almost every type of farm product. It is among the leading agricultural states. Markets are close at hand.

Ninety-eight and four-tenths per cent of all farm dwellings in Pennsylvania are served by improved highways.

These facts mean opportunity here in Pennsylvania if used with the advice of those who know. Pennsylvania needs you on its farm land if that is your chosen way of life. Your local Information Center will get you impartial advice. But first consider taking a training course in agriculture if you are short in experience.

Consult your local County Agent, Vocational Supervisor, Director of Veterans Affairs. They know what the opportunities are in your locality. Their advice as to farms, crops and soil is invaluable.

Future Farmers Train Their Leadership

Leadership Training Schools conducted by the F.F.A. in this state are most commendable. Russell Dickerson, Associate Professor of the Department of Agricultural Education, The Pennsylvania State College, is to be congratulated upon his fine organization and presentation of vitaly important but perhaps uninteresting material such as parliamentary procedures, by-law constructing, character, habits and personality.

It was the writer's privilege to "sit-in" on one of these sessions. It was good with never a dull moment—each member took an active part with an explanation of the whys and wherefores before and after participation. These schools are concluded usually with a banquet, the following program being typical:

POCONO MT. AREA F.F.A.
LEADERSHIP TRAINING BANQUET
East Stroudsburg, Pa.

Friday Evening, November 16th

PROGRAM

"The Importance of the F.F.A. in the School"

V. A. Martin, Advisor, Agricultural Education, Department of Public Instruction

"Developing Wholesome Qualities of Leadership"

Dr. R. B. Dickerson, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Education, State College, Pennsylvania

"Co-operation in Agriculture"
C. F. H. Wuesthoff, Manager, Pennsylvania Co-operative Potato Growers' Association, Williamsport, Pennsylvania

"A State-wide Plan for Leadership Training"

S. C. Hulslander, County Advisor, Wyoming-Sullivan Counties, Pennsylvania

"Citizenship in Agriculture"

J. H. Kunkle, County Supt. of Schools, Monroe County, Penna.

Strikes and Agriculture

Farm organizations have no argument with Labor Unions as such, but do object to rackets which in several cases are by-products of Labor Unions. The Food Producers' Council has done a lot in recent months in combating the racket whereby all truck operators hauling produce to market were required to have a Union Card or pay the fees of the Union for unloading privileges, even though they made only one or a few trips per year. Apparently the present administration has no intention of stopping these abuses and it is apparent that the labor group through its influence in Congress is demanding that nothing shall be done to make such practices illegal.

There has recently been introduced the so-called Hobbs Bill which would give relief from such violations as robbery, destruction of property, intimidation, coercion and interference with Interstate Commerce. It would not prevent legitimate, peaceful strikes or picketing. It is thought probable that this bill will pass the House but not get through the Senate.

Another bill known as the Hatch-Burton-Ball Bill would, among other things, place the force of government behind a legal requirement to suspend a strike for a definite period of time during which all parties concerned would be required to submit to arbitration.

Naturally, organized labor is violently opposed to both bills and it might be well if you are acquainted with any of your federal legislators to let them know how you feel about it. It is generally conceded that the labor program is attempting, by the leaders of organized labor, to gain political and economic power through closed shop policies which is denied other business.

BUY BONDS

FUTURE FARMER MARKETING TOUR

Lackawanna County Future Farmers of America with instructors, A & P officials and administrative officers.

Luzerne County Future Farmers of America also take advantage of first hand instruction through observation and demonstration at the Scranton A & P Warehouse.

A two day warehouse institute, held to acquaint vocational agriculture students with chain store methods of food distribution, was held at the Scranton warehouse of A & P Food Stores Nov. 14 and 15 with a total of 148 students, teachers and school officials having witnessed the warehouse operations.

On the first day a group of 82 from Lackawanna county made the tour. A Luzerne group of 68 figured in the second day's program.

The students were shown the various phases of chain warehouse operation from the platforms where merchandise is received from rail cars and trucks to the checking of the orders before they leave for the various stores. They visited the wet and dry cold rooms where perishables are kept, the egg and poultry departments and the bakery. Experts in various lines of food handling were on hand to explain operations and answer questions.

There were huge piles of Blue Label potatoes waiting to be shipped out to the stores and it was explained that the Scranton Unit of A & P has done an outstanding job in merchandising the Blue Label pack. Mr. A. F. Gallagher, vice president in charge of the company's operations in Northeastern Pennsylvania and Southern New York, said he believed it was good business to sell Pennsylvania potatoes in Pennsylvania and that he intended to push the product.

"They are good potatoes," he said, "and in selling these potatoes we are helping the farmers of our area who, after all, are our customers and therefore should be our suppliers."

Dr. E. L. Nixon, agricultural counsellor of the Pennsylvania Chain Store Council, was on hand for both tours and made the principal address at the luncheons in the Hotel Casey which closed both affairs.

Dr. Nixon told the students that what agriculture in Northeastern Pennsylvania needed was aggressive young farmers who wanted to live "off the road." He told of the advantages of living in the country and said it was a shame that more of the younger generation of girls looked askance at the youth who planned to make his living off the land.

"The salvation of this country lies in agriculture," he said. "Agriculture is the only source of new wealth and if agriculture dies everything around it dies."

Continued on page twenty-seven

FUTURE FARMER MARKETING TOUR

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Continued on page twenty-seven

INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

THE 400 BUSHEL CLUB
1945

The following have made the *400 Bushel Club* Honor Roll to November 15. All reports have not yet been received although the date deadline is set for Dec. 1:

Name and Address	*County*	*Yield*	*Variety*
George Tallman, Tower City	Schuylkill	449.6 Bu.	Sebago
William Schwartz, Hegins	Schuylkill	528.7 Bu.	Sebago
Robert Schwartz, Hegins	Schuylkill	525.4 Bu.	Sebago
Henry Wedde, Hegins	Schuylkill	504.5 Bu.	Menomines
G. S. Reed, Summit Station	Schuylkill	400.9 Bu.	Katahdin
Clyde Klouser, Hegins	Schuylkill	426.8 Bu.	Katahdin
George A. Shafer, Barnesville	Schuylkill	420.0 Bu.	Nittany
Mahlon S. King, Parkesburg	Chester	431.1 Bu.	Sebago
Paul Lauchnor, Slatington	Lehigh	543.0 Bu.	Katahdin
Harold R. Kuhns, Schnecksville	Lehigh	469.0 Bu.	Katahdin
William H. Ringler, Berlin	Somerset	464.0 Bu.	Mason
Fred W. Ross, Friedens	Somerset	454.5 Bu.	White Rural
Homer P. Koenig, Slatington	Lehigh	530.0 Bu.	Katahdin
William F. Bleiler, Kutztown	Lehigh	418.7 Bu.	Katahdin
Elmer H. Handwerk, Slatington	Lehigh	433.0 Bu.	Katahdin
Clarence W. Weida, New Tripoli	Lehigh	462.8 Bu.	Russet
Ralph M. Bloom, Hooversville	Somerset	439.0 Bu.	Russet
Edward Knepper, Berlin	Somerset	430.5 Bu.	Mason

—Reported by County Agents of respective counties.

FUTURE FARMER TOUR—

Continued from page twenty-two

Dr. Nixon brought a bag of HU23's to the luncheon on the first day and after showing them to the group, presented them to Mr. Gallagher. They were prize potatoes, in a Blue Label bag.

Howard E. Newcomer, vocational education adviser for Lackawanna and Luzerne counties brought the two groups to the warehouse. The students hailed from high schools in the following townships: Benton, Scott, Newton, Ransom, Dalton, Waverly, Huntington Mills, Lake, Lehman and Dallas.

REFRESHER SCHOOLS—

Continued from page seven

operations was stressed throughout each session. The importance of team work among the packing crew, the importance of each member of the team together with short cuts in operations all were brought to light in the interest of a smooth running system. Packing Blue Labels can be and is a pleasure to many cooperators and is proving decidedly economical and most profitable. The markets are still clamoring for more Pennsylvania Blue Labels. The pack is not fancy but a **good buy** for Pennsylvania's housewives.

Sixty-five growers and grade supervisors have been authorized and qualified to pack Pennsylvania Blue Labels since September first. These authorizations were made through the joint action of Area Managers, The Extension Service, Federal-State Inspection Service and the central office. It is with the sincere hope and conviction that these new men will do a good job for themselves and their Cooperative Association that these authorizations were made.

"POTATOES"—RECIPES

Continued from page fifteen

electric mixer. Cover bowl with a cloth and allow sponge to rise for 1 hour. Add 4 cups flour. Place on a lightly floured surface. Use such additional flour as needed and knead until smooth and elastic. Place in a greased bowl and grease surface of dough. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk (1 hour). Punch dough down and shape into rolls to half fill greased muffin tins. Grease surface of dough. Cover and let rise until doubled in bulk (about 20 minutes). Bake on a rack in a preheated oven of 425 degrees for 20 minutes.

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of GUIDE POST

—BLUE LABEL—

Gerald Bodman, Columbia
C. D. Ausberger, Lawrence
Dick Grabill, Dauphin
William Shaffer, Somerset
Fred Hagenbuch, Berks
H. R. Shappell, Schuylkill
Robert Clark, Erie
Merle Raybuck, Jefferson
Raymond Karge, Sullivan
Archie Cherrington, Columbia
Victor Deibert, Lehigh
Nicholas Chaputa, Northampton
James C. Coutts, Columbia
Walker Farms, Inc., Somerset
Paul Hotchkiss, Erie
C. H. Ingersoll, Northumberland
Lee Rarig, Northumberland
Mike Newhard, Columbia
Fred Beaver, Northumberland
Henry Everett, Columbia
Frank Fox, Northampton
Claude W. Sherman, Potter
L. V. Hosley, Potter
Carl W. York, Crawford
Lawrence G. Keiper, Carbon
Miles R. Miller, Sullivan
Henry E. Embich, Clinton
Atlen Mezger, Lehigh
Alden W. Phelps, Erie
Ora Gibbons, Erie
David Vough, Sullivan
Stephen Mozurkewich, Lackawanna
Warren F. Zehner, Luzerne
L. B. Ritter, Luzerne
Oscar F. Cook, Luzerne
Russell M. Deeter, Crawford
Paul M. Kennedy, Butler
Dan Hilliard, Butler
Levi S. Beiler, Chester
John Martin, Columbia
W. B. Frisbie, Monroe
Cunard A. Lower, Northampton
Russell H. Yohe, Lehigh
L. V. Snyder, Venango
C. D. Ahearn, Potter
D. L. Crum, Crawford
W. H. Shupp, Monroe
D. Lee Mohney, Mercer
Martin F. Christman
Russell H. Leete, Potter
Harold Quincy, Erie
Paul Graham, Erie
Luther Treaster, Sullivan
Wallance Kisenwether, Luzerne
Fred Walp, Luzerne
Bruce Kelchner, Luzerne
Elmer S. Hess, Luzerne
Peter S. Stehr, Schuylkill
Wallace Anderson, Crawford
Edward Knepper, Somerset
Edward S. Menig, Luzerne
Harry N. Miller, Columbia
John Blass, Columbia
Bruce H. Whitenight, Montgomery
Orin L. Krum, Columbia
Martin Litwin, Columbia
Harold Welsh, Luzerne
J. H. Leet, Ohio
Robert W. Slingluff, Crawford
L. W. Roland, Clearfield
R. S. Altgelt, Indiana
Jess L. Krall, Lehigh
W. O. Diehl, Columbia
Putnam Sales Service, Tioga
H. H. Moore, Lancaster
Howard Ziegler, Montgomery
C. J. Frantz, Warren
Joel Knepper, Fulton
George R. Leiby, Lehigh
Roscoe M. Guth, Lehigh
George H. Henry, Northampton
Ralph Baumgartner, Monroe
John Cheroks, Ohio
Ivan G. Martin, Lancaster
Robert L. Mensinger, Columbia
Charles W. Hoffman, Lehigh
Fred Rarig, Columbia
Ellis Artley, Columbia
Lee R. Brobst, Columbia
Claude Rhodes, Columbia
Bruce Bittner, Columbia
William Makowski, Northumberland
Bert Moore, Ohio
Dorsey Ellison, Lehigh
Mervin Mensch, Columbia

Potato Production

Estimated as of November 1, 1945

The 1945 nation wide potato crop has decreased slightly since October first, although the estimated production of 430,773,000 bushels is 45,000,000 bushels over the ten year 1934-43 average and 40,000,000 bushels under the all time high of 1943. The eighteen surplus late potato states show a production of 299 million bushels which is 28 million over the 1944 and 42 million over the ten year average 1934-43. The following gives a comparison of crop productions of competing late producing states:

	Thousand Bushels		
State	**1934-43**	**1944**	**1945**
Pennsylvania ...	22,318	19,140	17,515
New York			
(Long Island)	11,316	10,695	19,250
(Upstate)	17,279	15,750	10,530
Maine	46,102	53,863	56,970
Idaho	28,910	36,675	42,680
North Dakota ..	13,249	20,875	23,890
Michigan	23,669	18,360	17,850
Grand Total			
(All States) ..	375,091	379,436	430,773

Potatoes and Diversions

Major reductions in military requirements for potatoes together with increased availability of many other foods and some reduction in demand have all conspired with the bumper crop to put the 1945 crops of intermediate and late potatoes definitely in a surplus position.

The ceiling prices growers were receiving for all marketable potatoes a few weeks ago have now dropped to support levels. Through September 17, the Department of Agriculture purchased some 5,760 cars of potatoes in order to support prices at not less than 90 per cent of parity. Potatoes so purchased are being kept out of normal market channels. Their disposition through September 8 was: 24 per cent to starch manufacture; 13 per cent to relief channels (including school-lunch program); 13 per cent for livestock feed and experimental work; 9 per cent to canners, less than 1 per cent distilled for alcohol, and the rest temporarily in storage awaiting final disposition.

This year's sweet potato crop is expected to be a little smaller than last year, though slightly above average.

— LIFE MEMBERSHIPS —

AN EVER-GROWING GROUP

Suggestion — Send Yours "Pronto."

BLUE LABEL

J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Somerset
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Homer C. Bartter, Ohio
Walter H. Schlegel, Northampton
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Haskell Kune, Clearfield
D. E. Lewis, West Virginia
Paul R. Yoder, Chester
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Andy Boleratz, Erie
Foster Blough, Potter
Norman Strohl, Carbon
Wilmer Mensch, Columbia
Karl Uffelman, Dauphin
Walter Gibbons, Lancaster
Lynn Sill, Erie
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
V. A. Holtz, Cambria
Joseph Fisher, Somerset
Oscar Lauger, Warren
W. R. Campbell, West Virginia
A. J. Troyer, Ohio
A. C. Harwood, Erie
Harvey S. Lute, Cambria
George D. Henninger, Northampton
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
Leon Epler, Northumberland
R. B. Stutzman, Indiana
E. S. Grimm, Franklin
McPherson Bros., York
Harry Stockdale, Ohio
Elvin R. Huntsinger, Schuylkill
Dr. A. S. Romberger, Illinois
Harry Gallant, Crawford
Ralph Miller, Lehigh
W. C. Lefosky, Warren
Ivan Miller, Erie
Alfred Stauffer, Chester
Harold Rarig, Columbia
Ralph Hertzler, Chester
Roy R. Hess, Columbia
Ralph A. Thompson, New York
Francis Yahner, Cambria
Edgar R. Spory, Somerset
Gust Gorka, Erie
Omar Umble, Chester
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Barrie Wilson, Erie
Mervin Hanes, York
Robert H. Henninger, Northampton
Harold J. Henninger, Lehigh
R. N. Benjamin, Dauphin
Roy B. Hoober, Lancaster
Harry Long, Warren
Joseph M. Schwabenbauer, Elk
Douglas Fisher, Potter
Mathias C. Whitenight, Columbia
Harry Peterson, Crawford
John J. Petro, Jr., Columbia
Harvey Lute, Indiana
R. K. Wagner, Indiana
Ed. Fisher, Potter
J. K. Mast, Lancaster
Rollin E. Wright, Potter
Paul Cybulski, Luzerne
Harry Stine, Northumberland
Alvin Sutliff, Columbia
A. S. Yoder, Columbia
Robert Getz, Carbon
Robert Miller, Columbia
Orville Hufnagel, Columbia
Daniel Lindermuth, Columbia
Russell Billig, Northumberland
Charles A. Yoder, Northumberland
Paul R. LeVan, Columbia
Anthony Abrasczinskas, Columbia
Louis E. Thompson, Erie
P. Daniel Frantz, Lehigh

The GUIDE POST

VISION · PENNSYLVANIA · GROWERS · KNOWLEDGE

Season's Greetings

DECEMBER — 1945

VOLUME XXII NUMBER 12

"The Potato Harvester" on Dr. Nixon's Farm, State College, Pa.

ALFRED STAUFFER

Honey Brook Pennsylvania

THE GUIDE POST

Published monthly by
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Union City, Pa.

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Johnstown, Pa.

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Allentown, Pa.

RICHARD MANSFIELD
207 Main St.,
Coudersport, Pa.

Volume XXII | December, 1945 | Number 12

NEWS AND VIEWS:

DR. E. L. NIXON, Agricultural Counselor, Pennsylvania Chain Store Council

The **thirtieth** annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Potato Growers will begin at 9:30 a.m., January 23, 1946.

The place of the meeting will be in the House Caucus Room, Main Capitol Building.

The forenoon of the first day will be devoted to hearing a **word from the experts.**

The latest information on the disease and insect problem pertaining to the potato crop will be furnished by those in a position to speak authoritatively—new chemicals, their possibilities and limitations—old and well known insects and diseases affecting the potato crop will have new light shed upon their iniquitous behaviour

The seed potato problem with all its ramifications is up for discussion, old and new varieties—their strength and weaknesses.

Markets and marketing, how to sell, where to sell—bulk or burlap, cooperative or individual, identified standardized quality, consumer packages.

Finally—Land utilization, are there any more areas suitable for potato production in Pennsylvania, what it takes to put them into production. Do potato areas shift from generation? What is the cause? Should or could it be prevented?

Note in the center spread of this is-

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INTENTIONAL SECOND EXPOSURE

sue you will see the trends in potato production by counties for the past ten years. Study it closely, and the influences at work in the transitions or shifts in acreages from year to year.

Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock the Directors of the association will conduct a round table discussion or paneled discussion on the Association in relation to the community—town, city, country, labor industry.

This will be unique, vital to every member of the association.

This discussion will be followed at 3:30 p.m. by the annual business meeting—election of directors, reports of activities.

In the evening at 7:30 a rousing **good time** is promised.

The program is varied, instructive and entertaining moving pictures; singing, can you top this, some new—some old. Informal discussion and renewal of acquaintances.

The second morning, Jan 24 at 9:30, the meeting will be held at the**Oliver Farm Equipment Warehouse, 14th and Howard Street.**

The topic—"What's cookin' and what has been fried" in potato equipment.

Actual demonstrations with actual equipment in—

(a) Soil Preparation
(b) Fertilizer placement
(c) Planter and planter adjustments
(d) Cultivating and cultivator adjustment
(e) Spraying and sprayer adjustments
(f) Digging and digger adjustments
(g) Storage and storage construction
(h) Grading and packing potatoes.

Experts who know, will stage these various demonstrations and lead the discussions.

In connection with the machinery clinic or method demonstration several valuable prizes will be offered by the machinery manufacturers and the potato association for the most valuable, most unique, or most constructive gadget or appliance to the potato industry.

Bring along your best suggestion in improving the workability of any piece of equipment—you may win a valuable prize.

If the gadget is too cumbersome to carry, draw or photograph it and be prepared to explain its workability.

It does not have to be elaborate or complicated to win a prize—simple every day improvements, may be the most suggestive. Originality counts. Workability is essential.

There are hundreds of short cuts and simple improvements used daily in Pennsylvania potato fields worth a million for the trend of thought they will cause in someone's mind if they are brought to light. Bring them out.

Sandwiches and coffee will be served at the Oliver Warehouse. This ought to be a very valuable meeting to everybody. It will be thought stimulating and may lead to many valuable improvements. It will make a better potato grower out of you.

In the afternoon at 2:00 o'clock back in the House Caucus Room in the Capitol a unique program has been prepared for men under 35. (Of course those over 35 are welcome).

The series of meetings will close with the cooperative-Business dinner in the Ball Room of the Penn Harris Hotel at 6:00 p.m.

Her Royal Highness, the Pennsylvania Potato Blossom Queen, will reign supreme.

Awards will be presented. Grand singing by a grand leader. Our own Secretary of Agriculture will smile upon the queen, and two nationally known speakers will address the audience. All of this at O.P.A. ceiling prices. If you were to pay five bucks for the privilege of attending it would be only half enough.

ARE YOU AN INVENTOR?

Bring your invention to the Farm Machinery Meeting.

It may win a prize for you.

"FARMERS and MARKETS"

by the Food Producers Council

Six million farm families are producing food for the 139 million people in the United States today. With more and more farm products going to the consumer in fresh form, their quality and dollar value depend to a large extent upon the speed with which they reach the market. Moreover, the war re-emphasized the vital importance of eliminating waste in handling food.

To be prosperous, agriculture must have a good market for fresh foods. For this, it is imperative that farmers have a ready market six days a week and that there be no obstruction of farm produce trucks headed for market. Delays mean deterioration and waste.

With 40 out of every 100 Americans on an inadequate diet, such waste weakens the national economy. Furthermore, the loss through spoilage of food caused by delays in marketing comes out of the farmer's pocket.

The taste and nutritive value of food, the result of six or seven months of planning and hard work on the farm, can be destroyed in one day if produce does not reach the market promptly. The farmer has a definite stake in maintaining consumer acceptance for his products. Thus he must move his harvested fruits and vegetables rapidly to insure that they retain their tastiness, food value and sight appeal.

There has never been too much food in this country or in the world. Problems have arisen because there has been too much food at one place. The problem is to get the food where it's wanted, when it's wanted and in good condition.

A 6-Day Market

Among the immediate objectives of the Food Producers Council is the maintenance of an accessible market, readily available to farmers six days a week.

If the market is cut to five days and the farmer does not work on Sunday, this means he cannot harvest perishable products after Thursday since his produce is usually picked the day before it reaches the consumer. Thus, almost one-half the week—from Thursday to Monday—is lost.

The season doesn't wait. Weather conditions and other uncontrollable factors govern the amount of work that can be done. When certain fruits and vegetables are ready for harvest, an extra day or two means waste, low prices.

Waste deprives the consumer of food he needs. In some areas where the 5-day market is in effect, the economic loss to farmers, resulting from waste and low prices, has amounted to hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Once the farmer has done his share by seeing that the produce is harvested at the proper time, it is essential to his own operations and to the consumer's, that he have an accessible market.

This means that, regardless of heavy or light marketing on any particular day receivers must have the right to operate the market and serve farmers with products to sell. Nature knows no holidays.

Unhampered Flow of Foods

The FPC aims to insure the free flow of perishable foods from farm to market.

Highly perishable foods must be harvested, prepared for market and delivered within a comparatively few hours, or freshness and food values are lost.

Damage to crops is accelerated once they are picked and loaded in trucks. This is particularly true on short hauls where refrigerated trucks are not used.

Any farmer knows that many crops, such as sweet corn, beans, peaches and berries, lose their nutritive benefits and palatability—and therefore their value—if they are not moved promptly from the field to the consumer's table.

The council, in its articles of incorporation, is pledged "to promote economy and efficiency in the marketing of food products through the removal of barriers to the free flow of food from producer to consumer, the betterment of market facilities and the improvement of other practices in the production and distribution of food products to the end that consumers may get their food in its most nutritious and palatable form and that the farmers thereby may have a better market for their products."

A Mutual Understanding

As its third objective, the council

seeks to help labor and the farmer understand each other's problems. Farmers have always given to labor and to other groups the same right to organize that they keep for themselves. Farmers feel, however, that such organization should be built from within to fill a need and not inflicted from without.

Farming is a highly specialized business, regulated by nature's sunshine and storms, as contrasted to industry, controlled entirely by man. Organizations and regulations suited to man-controlled conditions in city and factory are not and cannot be made adaptable or workable in the great outdoors, where production is subject to the vagaries of nature.

Successful farming today requires more skill, better management, and more all-around business ability than ever before.

Production per man per hour today is practically twice what it was 25 years ago.

During the World War I period, an average man-hour produced 43 pounds of milk. Today it produces 64 pounds. During the same period the number of eggs produced per man-hour has increased from 54 to 93, the pounds of potatoes from 73 to 163. An over-all index of ten farm products shows an increase in production per man-hour of from 59 to 100 pounds.

Such increased production means the farmer of today must be a better salesman. One of his main selling points is the freshness of his product.

From the farm to the consumer, food is handled by many groups—it is unloaded, distributed, graded and retailed. The farmer, the laboring man, wholesaler and the retailer, must work together to get the food to the consumer in good condition.

BLUE LABEL

Potatoes for the Rice Bowls of China

This concerns some potatoes which may change the future of a nation.

Technical skill and scientific knowledge, as well as war material, were Lend-Leased to China during the war. Our agricultural experts, having in mind the axiom that a one-crop economy—like cotton in our old South—breeds poverty and exhaustion of the land, turned critical attention to China's extreme concentration on the growing of rice. Dr. Theodore F. Dykstra, of Beltsville, Maryland, decided to tackle the problem personally, and in September of 1942 he departed for China with 155 pounds of potatoes representing fifty-four champion varieties grown in twenty-eight states.

The potatoes made awkward traveling companions. In Washington a porter insisted on loading the sacks into an upper berth with Doctor Dykstra when he refused to entrust his precious luggage to the uncertain temperature of the baggage car. En route to India, Doctor Dykstra's ship was disabled off South Africa, but the potatoes were brought safely ashore. After that they were flown the length of Africa and across to India, and finally over the perilous Hump to China. By that time they were easily the most expensive seed potatoes in history.

Plunging into his experiment, Doctor Dykstra planted testing areas in three provinces of Western China where white potatoes were known only as exotic luxuries. He grew and harvested two crops of his samples. Then he knew his project had great possibilities, and he cabled enthusiastically back to the States for 100 pounds each of four varieties which had revealed high production tendencies in Chinese soil.

The experiment is still in its infancy. But it's expanding robustly as a national project now. The Chinese Government has already invested more than $2,000,000, Chinese currency, in the potato program, and with the coming of peace the revolutionary undertaking is likely to be greatly expanded. So promising is the outlook that at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Conference a delighted Chinese delegate declared that by demonstrating an effective famine-relief crop, Doctor Dykstra may have profoundly altered the course of China's history.

RURAL MECHANICS

A New Mechanical Field for the Veteran Who Wants Independence

JAMES P. BRESSLER
Williamsport Technical Institute, Williamsport, Pa.

The rapid expansion in the use of highly developed machinery on the farm, the wider use of electricity in the rural homes and the generally greater mechanical aspect of living in the rural areas has created a great demand for mechanics who are trained for service in this special field. Heretofore, we have specialized in training men for the service industries in the urban centers. All the while we have paid scant attention to the needs of the farm and rural areas mainly because such needs were not too difficult to meet with existing services. Much of this repaid and maintenance work was handled by the blacksmith or garages or mechanics with limited skills. For the past decade and especially during the war years, the rural areas have fallen into stride in mechanical advancement. The village blacksmith can no longer perform all the services that such advancement requires. Thus the greater use of machinery generally has created an acute service problem.

Here then is an ideal field for war veterans who prefer to go into a business of their own or work for some company dealing in farm equipment. Many veterans, by virtue of their army training and previous experience, as well as their desire to work in the country, are well adapted to enter this new field.

Since this type of work as a career is new, there are obviously many questions about it that veterans would like to have answered. Here are the answers to some of them.

1. What Are My Chances of Success?
Answer—There isn't much gambling on your future in this if you are willing to train for it and apply yourself to the work. Every town on the map offers a potential location for you. What about **your** home town?

2. Where Can I Get This Training?
Answer—The Williamsport Technical Institute is pioneering in the training of veterans for Rural Mechanical Service. To our knowledge no other school is offering any similar opportunity. The institute, with its Technical departments and up-to-date equipment is at the disposal of trainees in veterans training courses.

3. When Can I Begin?
Answer—Anytime. The course is so organized that every trainee is given individual instruction. The course itself is divided into individual instructional units. Since these units are independent of each other, the order in which they are given varies with the needs of each trainee. The time required however, to complete the training period makes it advisable to begin as soon as possible after you return to civilian life.

4. What Will It Cost?
Answer—They thought of that when they passed the G. I. Bill of Rights. Your country thinks you should have your training opportunity so that you are assured gainful employment in the post war period. This training comes under the G. I. Bill of Rights.

5. What Education Must I Have to Enter?
Answer—There is no special requirement. The main qualification is interest in the work, a mechanical inclination, and a desire to make good. A high school education is desirable but not essential.

6. What Does the Course Consist of?
Answer—The training outline calls for instruction in Rural electricity, auto mechanics, farm tractors, welding, sheet metal and blacksmithing, machine shop, farm machinery and plumbing and water supply.

7. How Long Will All This Take?
Answer—That depends on your previous experience. We aim to supply those units of training that you need individually, and if you are already skilled in some phases of the work, so much the better and your course will be shortened. For a totally untrained man, the course will run for four years. All depends on the progress of the individual.

8. Where Can I Get More Information As to Registration, etc.?
Answer—Call or write VETERANS TRAINING in care of Williamsport Technical Institute. If you can, drop in

Continued on page twenty-seven

"POTATOES"—Potential Prizes

Anna dePlanter Bowes
Chief, Division of Nutrition, Pennsylvania Department of Health

Anna dePlanter Bowes

Are you interested in prize winning recipes? Most women are. Many men are too—especially if the dish includes potatoes.

The recipe to be shared with you through these pages won a prize in a national contest conducted during the war. It is a treasured family dish eaten frequently over a period of many years. And I firmly believe its regular use contributes greatly to the excellent health our family enjoys. The basis of the dish is POTATOES.

It is a favorite, commonly used one-dish meal in the Netherlands — when food conditions are normal. Millions of Dutch and Belgian families will, this Christmas, give fervent thanks that dishes like this—lettuce and potatoes (veldsalade aan aardappel)—may again be on the family table in a year or two. How much relation there is between the vitality, stamina and courage of the Netherlanders and their high normal consumption of potatoes, green leafy vegetables and milk can easily be checked by any one with up-to-date tables of food values. It is difficult to find a one-dish meal with equal health protection properties. And it is equally challenging to find a recipe which can so pleasantly and easily help to use our extra 45,000,000 bushels of potatoes in America!

Potatoes and Lettuce
4 to 5 servings

12 white potatoes
1 large panful of garden, leaf lettuce or 2 to 3 heads of other greens in season as endive, escarole, romaine
3 to 4 slices salt pork (½ pound)
1 to 2 teaspoons salt
⅓ to ½ cup vinegar

Method:

1. Select medium to large, smooth potatoes. Scrub thoroughly. Cook in their jackets in boiling water until tender.
2. Wash lettuce, endive or other seasonal greens thoroughly in several waters. Separate leaves from head and wash again if necessary. Drain well, using cheesecloth or a linen towel to absorb as much of the water as possible. Place in the hydrator of a refrigerator or in a tightly covered bowl in a cool place, as the cellar, to crispen.

3. Wash slices of salt pork quickly in cold water. The rind can be left if it is thin. Dice the salt pork in ¼ inch cubes. Put cubes in a heavy frying pan and cook **very slowly** over a low flame until cubes are golden brown in color. Stir frequently so all cubes are equally well cooked.
4. When potatoes are tender, drain. Allow steam and moisture to escape. Peel and mash in a large pan with a few quick strokes. Sprinkle generously with salt.
5. Add several large handfuls of lettuce or other greens and about one half the pork cubes and fat. Mix well. Add remaining greens and the rest of the pork cubes and fat. Mix until lettuce is slightly wilted. Put vinegar into pan in which pork has cooked. Heat slowly tipping pan so all the fat from bottom and sides of pan is removed. Add to the potatoes and greens and stir thoroughly. Add salt and additional vinegar if necessary to bring out the best flavor of potatoes and lettuce. Serve at once.

One to two large servings of this dish with a glass or two of milk make a very easily prepared lunch, supper or light dinner. If a heartier meal is desirable, add a serving of meat, a milk or fruit dessert and a beverage.

Advantages of This Dish

1. Makes generous use of potatoes.
2. Increases the amount of greens in the diet.
3. Reduces loss of nutrients often extensive in cooking potatoes and greens by other methods.
4. Easily and quickly prepared.
5. Reduces washing of dishes for preparation and service of a meal to a minimum.
6. Encourages the use of three highly alkaline types of food—potatoes, greens and milk. Many American meals are too low in alkaline values for good health.

A Last Word About Potatoes

A generation ago per capita consumption of potatoes was much higher with advantage to individual and national health. Since then a variety of foods higher in calories, cost and curve-producing tendencies has gradually replaced some of the native, healthful potatoes in our diets. And this has decidedly **not** been to our health advantage.

Concentrated sweets and other similar manufactured products are not only higher in calories and thus **more fattening** but most of them are lower in the many contributions potatoes make to a well rounded diet. Let potatoes take their healthful place in your diet without fear!

Eat More Potatoes

Dr. J. H. Kellogg of the Battle Creek Sanitarium, Michigan, states, "Less breads and cereals, less meat and eggs, (both scarce items) and more potatoes is the simple program called for. The potato is one of the most highly alkaline of foods. Cooked potato starch digets in a sixth of the time required for the digestion of oatmeal, and in less than any other cereal. When well cooked, the Potato is as palatable as any cereal. If bread and cereals are reduced one-half, and eggs and meat the same, in favor of the Potato and green vegetables, an almost immediate improvement in health will be noted. There is no other single article of food capable of doing so much for the promotion of Health, longevity and prosperity of the American people as the Potato."

Bystander: "Look at the disgusting boy with the cropped hair, cigarette, and wide trousers."

War Worker: "That's my daughter!"

Bystander: "My dear sir, do forgive me. I would never have been so outspoken if I'd known you were her father."

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The Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Assn.

Incorporated

Williamsport, Penna.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

J. A. Donaldson, President—Emlenton
Ed Fisher, Vice-President—Coudersport

CENTRAL AREA

M. P. Whitenight, Bloomsburg
Ed. Fisher, Coudersport
Wm. W. Hayes, Jersey Shore

WESTERN AREA

F. L. Dodd, Columbus
J. A. Donaldson, Emlenton
Lester J. Lohr, Boswell

EASTERN AREA

P. Daniel Frantz, Coplay
J. K. Mast, Elverson
Hugh McPherson, Bridgeton

Purposes—To bring together for mutual co-operative effort and service all agencies engaged or interested in the production, transportation, marketing and utilization of potatoes and the general promotion and advancement of the potato industry in all its phases.

Major Activities

1. An Educational Program in Production and Marketing.
2. A Youth Movement in the Promotion and Advancement of the Potato Industry.
3. Maintenance of Camp Potato as a Recreational and Inspirational Center through the Development and Proving of Better Varieties and Practices.
4. Sustain an Informed Membership through Sufficient Meetings and Timely Reminders through the Association's Official Organ, The Guide Post.

The Annual Membership to this Association is $1.00, which includes a year's Subscription to The Guide Post.

—BLUE LABEL—

ATTENTION — Growers and Distributors

We would call your attention to the definite location and establishment of the Association's Sales Offices, for the purpose of facilitating increased packing and marketing of Pennsylvania Blue Label Potatoes. Growers and buyers in need of assistance and supplies are urged to contact their nearest office.

Northeastern Area—
Roy R. Hess, Manager
Stillwater, Penna.
Phone—Benton 34R14

Southwestern Area—
Joseph H. Fisher, Manager
611 Swank Building
Johnstown, Penna.
Phone—Johnstown 82271

Southeastern Area—
Hiram A. Frantz, Manager
702 N. Eighth Street
Allentown, Penna.
Phone—Allentown 3-1765

Northwestern Area—
J. M. Hindman, Manager
11½ Gardner Building
Union City, Penna.
Phone—Union City 200

North Central Area—
Richard Mansfield, Manager
207 Main Street
Coudersport, Penna.
Phone—560

Blue Label Movement

"Going to Town"

—BLUE LABEL—

The report from our Sales Manager's Office shows the following sales by Counties as of December 1st.—

	pecks
Lehigh	368,065
Erie	159,500
Warren	149,753
Somerset	146,394
Potter	131,398
Chester	131,379
Lancaster	125,399
Schuylkill	117,652
Carbon	115,392
Lycoming	109,568
Cambria	101,203
Crawford	93,473
Monroe	92,747
Columbia	85,896
Luzerne	53,040
Northumberland	44.609
Venago	35,176
York	33,433
Northampton	31,918
Berks	30,613
Centre	28,180
Indiana	18,500
Adams	11,919
Huntingdon	11,800
Clinton	11,735
Lebanon	11,117
Tioga	10,591
Sullivan	7,747
Bradford	3,909
Blair	3,000
Bedford	2,600
Elk	1,050
Clarion	800
Dauphin	800
Union	632
Jefferson	200
McKean	200
	2,281,388

Blue Label Movement by Areas

	Peck Equivalents
Southeastern Area	749,685
Northeastern Area	563,402
Southwestern Area	394,381
North Central Area	135,367
Northwestern Area	438,553
Total to Dec. 1, 1945	2,281,388

House Passes Labor Restriction Bill

Unions Made Subject to Federal Laws Against Racketeering

Washington, Dec. 12—The House today passed and sent to the Senate the Hobbs bill which would make labor unions subject to Federal "anti-racketeering" laws, the first restrictive labor legislation since the Smith-Connally labor disputes act.

The bill, passed by voice vote. provides a maximum penalty of $20,000 fine and 10 years imprisonment for anyone found guilty of violating the anti-racketeering laws.

It would make it a penal offense for anyone—including labor leaders—to interfere with interstate commerce by "intimidation, extortion." Its sponsor, Representative Sam Hobbs, Democrat, Alabama, said it would not interfere with the legitimate "rights of organized labor."

—NOTICE—

The annual membership meeting of the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers' Association will be held at 3:30 P. M., Wednesday, January 23, 1946 in the House Caucus Room 326, Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Important business to come before the membership will include—

The President's Address
Election of Directors
Financial and Activities Report
Amendment of By-Laws

C. F. H. Wuesthoff
Secretary

—BLUE LABEL—

POTATOES NOT ONLY A FOOD BUT A REMEDY

Dr. M. Hindhede, Copenhagen, Denmark, says:

"The potato is not only an excellent food, but it is a **remedy.** It dissolves uric acid as well as chalk, and is therefore, able to cure different forms of gout and rheumatism." Dr. Kellogg also says: "The potato is an immense food remedy in the treatment of a large number of diseases. Among which are biliousness, constipation, rheumatism and gout."

Benefit Both Your Health and Pocket-Book by Eating More Potatoes.

Schuylkill County Growers Meeting

December 15, 1945

Your secretary had the pleasure of attending one of the most interesting meetings of the year at Pottsville, Saturday, December 15, 1945. The morning session was devoted to problems concerning the Potato Industry of the county. P. E. Dougherty discussed the Seed Situation, C. F. H. Wuesthoff explained the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers Marketing "set-up" and recognized seven winners of the 400-Bushel Club Award and Mr. Deal of the Agricultural Extension Service, presented insect control measures and DDT applications.

An elaborate Banquet and program, at which Pennsylvania's Potato Blossom Queen, Anna Mae Dennison of over 200 farmers and their wives. Blostom Queen, Anna Mae Dennison of Schuylkill county, was formally presented to the assembled group by Association Secretary Wuesthoff. With her usual pleasing personality and poise Queen Anna Mae responded with most interesting and fitting remarks.

The days proceedings were in the capable hands of none other than Association's **Life Member,** John Schrope, who has just completed his twenty-third year as president of the county organization. Incidentally John was presented with a beautiful pencil and pen set last year and remarked then that a nightshirt would have been more fitting and acceptable, this year President John received no less than 6 nightshirts—two of them the traditional **Red Flannels** and they were beauties—every one of them.

The entire day was a most unusual one—it was one with interest—enthusiasm—kindliness and understanding. It was a meeting not soon to be forgotten by anyone attending.

Schuylkill county is a wonderful county. It is a fine place to live, to work and to play. It has leaders who are concerned with making their county one of the best in the country. All agencies are working together most harmoniously to that end. We congratulate them most heartily!

Anderson Recommends 1946 Farm Production Goals

Secretary of Agriculture Clinton P. Anderson has recommended national farm production goals for 1946 which call for a total acreage of over 356 million acres, not as large as the 1945 goals but approximately five and one-half million acres more than the indicated acreage actually planted for 1945 crops.

"The end of the war has not brought an end to the almost unlimited need for American food," Secretary Anderson said in recommending the goals to states. "The 1946 goals indicate a pattern of production which provides continued high output of those commodities for which wartime demand is continuing and shifts toward peacetime levels for others.

"We still have our own people to feed, including the military forces. This has been a factor in estimating total requirements. For all major commodities the recommended goals would provide a civilian per capita consumption higher than during war years.

"At the same time, we are not forgetting our allies who now face hunger because war destroyed or damaged their normal food production.

"In suggesting continued high production during this first post-war year, I cannot fail to pay tribute to the marvelous production efforts of farmers during the war. Production of a third more food than in the average pre-war year played a big part in winning the war."

Final goals have already been set for wheat, rye, dry peas, winter vegetables, cover crop seeds, and flaxseed for the early-producing states. Goals previously submitted for state consideration, but not yet approved as final, include early commercial potatoes and spring pigs. Recommendations on the goal for the 1946 fall pig crop will be deferred until next spring. A 1945 fall pig crop of 35 million pigs is indicated.

During December, the suggested goals will be considered at state meetings of representatives of Department of Agriculture agencies making up the State USDA Council, and representatives of the State Agricultural College, farm organizations and other interested groups.

New Dean of Agriculture

Recent Appointment

Dr. Lyman E. Jackson, president of South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts will become Dean of the School of Agriculture at the Pennsylvania State College some time before March 1, 1946. His selection was made by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees meeting Saturday, December 15th and was announced on the same day by President Ralph D. Hetzel.

Dr. Jackson who is secretary of the National Association of Land Grant Colleges and Universities, and president of South Dakota State College will succeed S. W. Fletcher who retired in July but returned to his duties until a successor could be named. Dr. Jackson was president of South Dakota State College since 1941 and before this served as Junior Dean of Agriculture at Ohio State University. He began his career in Education in 1921 after graduating from the University of Wisconsin when he taught Vocational Agriculture. In the 24 years since he has had experience as a County Agent, a Vocational Supervisor, a College Professor in research and experimentation, a 4-H leader, and a U. S. Department of Agriculture official. He is co-author of three books: "Crop Management and Soil Conservation," "Field Crops and Land Use" and "Livestock Management." More than 100,000 copies are now in use throughout this country in addition to those requested for the U. S. Armed Forces Institute.

Dr. Jackson is 47 years old, he was awarded his Bachelor of Science Degree in 1921, his Master of Science Degree in 1925 and was granted his PhD. degree at the University of Minnesota in 1931.

The new Dean is a member of the Methodist Church, the Masonic Lodge, the Grange, the Rotary Club and the American Farm Bureau.

Anhydrous Potatoes

Empty a cup of something that looks like tapioca into a cup and a half of boiling water, beat hard four minutes. And lo!—there's a large dish of fluffy, white mashed potatoes.

The tapioca-like product is one of several "anhydrous" foods produced by a new kind of dehydration. The process was invented by Clarence Birdseye, father of quick-freeze. Almost any fruit or vegetable that's served cooked can be anhydrated, he said. Broccoli, for instance will come in a box the size of a cigaret package, blossom into full green flowers to fill the family vegetable dish after only 10 minutes' cooking.

PARTLY COOKED. Speed secret lies in the way the process removes water. And because food is semi-cooked, flavor, color and aroma are locked in.

Anhydrated beans, peas, corn, carrots, beets, sliced or diced potatoes, apples, peaches, berries will reach store shelves early next year, predicted Birdseye. Besides saving shelf space. they'll spare the cook needless peeling and paring, spare the garbage can a burden, too.

— Soil Conservation —

Two counties of the state have created County Soil Conservation Districts under the recent act No. 217 authorization. Potter county through the interest, enthusiasm and sincere effort of community leaders was the first county of the state to be successful in securing the approval of their county commissioners a district under the above law passed by the last legislature.

This will bring to Potter county much needed services for the conservation of soil, proper land use and drainage age management as carried on by the Soil Conservation Service.

Fulton county is a close second to create a similar district. It might be well for other counties to investigate accruing benefits and advantages offered and perhaps **do likewise.**

PRIZES — PRIZES

For the most useful gadget or appliance in potato production.

A TEN-YEAR STORY OF PENNSYLVANIA'S POTATO INDUSTRY

1935-'44 INCL. ACREAGE PRODUCTION BY COUNTIES

	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
North Western										
Crawford	8,350	7,140	7,870	7,220	7,080	5,890	5,160	4,040	4,140	3,880
Erie	9,090	7,950	8,530	7,480	7,410	7,450	6,670	5,710	6,310	5,980
Forest	350	300	320	300	300	220	210	180	190	180
Mercer	5,820	5,160	5,530	5,250	5,040	4,180	3,830	3,040	3,050	2,770
Venango	1,840	1,840	2,020	1,800	1,780	1,560	1,490	1,260	1,200	1,100
Warren	1,880	1,690	1,690	1,520	1,470	1,570	1,360	1,210	1,210	1,200
North Central										
Bradford	4,050	4,160	4,380	3,710	3,530	2,420	2,290	2,340	2,400	2,250
Cameron	310	280	290	290	300	110	110	90	100	100
Clinton	1,710	1,520	1,480	1,490	1,510	970	830	810	850	810
Elk	980	890	960	1,090	1,110	780	730	670	660	680
Lycoming	3,760	3,100	3,210	3,080	3,020	3,020	2,740	2,890	3,040	2,880
McKean	930	910	910	1,100	1,020	600	580	520	500	500
Potter	4,340	3,980	4,240	4,280	4,410	3,560	3,480	3,380	4,350	5,000
Sullivan	500	440	480	430	400	490	480	500	530	490
Tioga	3,300	2,650	2,870	2,490	2,530	2,340	2,100	2,060	2,130	1,990
North Eastern										
Lackawanna	2,370	2,080	2,030	1,870	1,700	1,720	1,540	1,480	1,690	1,450
Susquehanna	2,900	3,040	3,220	3,060	2,820	2,030	1,860	1,760	2,100	2,010
Wayne	2,020	2,180	2,240	2,060	1,810	1,520	1,420	1,340	1,650	1,580
Wyoming	1,680	1,470	1,440	1,350	1,250	1,110	1,040	1,100	1,280	1,120
West Central										
Armstrong	2,650	2,050	2,000	1,920	1,980	1,730	1,670	1,720	1,800	1,740
Beaver	1,520	1,420	1,510	1,340	1,320	900	790	870	950	820
Butler	4,830	4,380	4,540	4,280	4,130	3,920	3,600	3,570	3,660	3,220
Clarion	2,010	1,950	1,910	1,720	1,670	1,250	1,150	1,180	1,210	1,180
Indiana	4,050	3,540	3,810	3,650	3,720	3,270	2,930	2,820	2,810	2,500
Jefferson	3,540	2,920	3,080	2,790	2,680	2,430	2,130	2,020	2,010	1,900
Lawrence	2,000	1,630	1,720	1,560	1,520	1,150	1,070	900	980	890
Central										
Blair	1,770	1,440	1,520	1,360	1,280	1,260	1,210	1,200	1,450	1,340
Cambria	5,320	4,490	4,650	4,550	4,240	5,840	5,700	5,880	6,780	6,350
Centre	2,950	2,580	2,530	2,300	2,330	2,260	2,050	1,990	2,220	1,880
Clearfield	3,710	3,170	3,810	3,140	3,020	3,160	2,800	2,780	3,340	3,290
Columbia	4,820	4,220	4,240	4,240	4,120	3,890	3,640	3,720	4,330	3,850
Dauphin	2,890	2,770	2,780	2,740	2,520	1,410	1,390	1,310	1,560	1,340
Huntingdon	1,410	1,130	1,110	1,010	1,110	1,040	1,010	1,110	1,340	1,170
Juniata	1,260	1,020	1,000	960	890	780	730	690	780	690
Mifflin	970	860	840	810	810	550	520	560	630	580
Montour	690	680	670	630	580	540	520	500	560	510
Northumberland	3,120	2,830	2,930	2,720	2,690	2,510	2,420	2,550	3,040	2,790
Perry	1,220	1,090	1,130	1,110	1,100	830	830	820	930	850
Snyder	1,690	1,600	1,590	1,440	1,340	1,480	1,430	1,460	1,770	1,560
Union	1,380	1,340	1,330	1,220	1,150	1,210	1,140	1,190	1,320	1,230
East Central										
Carbon	2,550	2,230	2,400	2,180	2,120	1,840	1,810	1,870	2,160	2,110
Lehigh	14,940	13,900	14,760	13,990	13,440	13,390	12,670	13,610	15,160	14,950
Luzerne	5,020	4,500	4,740	4,310	4,230	3,640	3,410	3,310	3,820	3,460
Monroe	1,640	1,320	1,410	1,320	1,260	1,060	950	1,020	1,070	970
Northampton	5,910	5,480	5,880	5,930	5,690	6,080	5,760	6,070	6,880	6,860
Pike	260	240	250	250	230	230	220	220	260	230
Schuylkill	7,700	6,900	6,740	6,730	6,400	5,440	5,420	5,540	5,840	5,880
South Western										
Allegheny	630	560	560	520	500	630	600	620	590	500
Fayette	1,830	1,470	1,390	1,210	1,260	980	980	1,070	950	900
Greene	500	430	440	380	380	390	390	440	420	390
Somerset	10,590	8,730	8,950	8,130	8,130	8,370	8,010	7,860	7,900	6,700
Washington	910	800	780	680	650	640	620	690	620	570
Westmoreland	2,790	2,410	2,400	2,110	2,170	1,540	1,390	1,300	1,230	1,140
South Central										
Adams	890	1,380	1,480	1,360	1,210	890	800	880	1,110	1,100
Bedford	1,280	2,230	2,180	1,980	1,980	1,770	1,760	1,740	2,170	2,070
Cumberland	1,770	2,670	2,530	2,420	2,450	1,470	1,370	1,440	1,820	1,670
Franklin	1,340	2,330	2,210	2,080	1,890	1,600	1,460	1,560	1,830	1,650
Fulton	770	670	670	630	620	750	750	800	960	870
York	6,010	10,720	11,090	10,850	10,420	8,270	7,740	8,160	9,500	9,090
South Eastern										
Berks	9,100	7,780	7,980	7,400	7,110	6,410	6,380	6,380	7,550	6,710
Bucks	3,360	2,770	2,990	2,860	2,690	2,180	2,060	2,170	2,510	2,330
Chester	4,590	3,740	3,690	3,350	3,350	2,800	2,760	2,730	3,150	2,860
Delaware	650	530	540	500	460	510	490	490	620	520
Lancaster	12,650	11,470	11,430	10,950	10,630	10,900	10,520	10,760	13,270	12,440
Lebanon	4,280	3,880	3,790	3,780	3,520	2,400	2,220	2,200	2,700	2,480
Montgomery	2,030	1,860	1,760	1,660	1,520	760	700	740	870	780
Philadelphia	130	110	100	100	100	110	110	110	130	120
Pennsylvania	224,000	199,000	205,000	193,000	187,000	168,000	158,000	157,000	176,000	165,000
United States	3,541,000	3,058,000	3,177,000	3,007,600	3,031,700	2,865,400	2,733,400	2,711,100	3,322,000	2,909,800

Pennsylvania is a Great State

Tell Someone About It

Organized in 1895, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has served farmers and consumers for half a century. It is essentially a service agency created by legislative enactment to deal with administrative, regulatory, and investigational problems through enforcement of various laws having to do with the health of livestock and poultry, control of plant insects and diseases, the preparation, marketing and sale of foods for humans, feeds for livestock, fertilizers, insecticides, etc.

Farmers of Pennsylvania have done a magnificent job in producing record amounts of food during the war years. Food processing plants have broken all known records. In more than a dozen fields Pennsylvania now leads all other States in the production or value of farm products and processed foods.

Through the efforts of farmers the Commonwealth in 1944 ranked—

FIRST in the production of MUSHROOMS—20,000,000 pounds

FIRST in production of BUCKWHEAT—2,940,000 bushels

FIRST in production of CIGAR LEAF TOBACCO—52,893,000 pounds

FIRST in production of TURKEYS (East of Mississippi River) — 1,670,000 birds

FIRST in production of Spring and Fall SPINACH—1,237,000 bushels

FIRST in production of Nursery-grown CHRISTMAS TREES

FIRST in the number of BABY CHICK HATCHERIES—636

FIRST in the volume of APPLES State-graded for processing—135,000,000 pounds

First in the value of CROPS GROWN UNDER GLASS—$9,074,212 (1939)

FIRST in production of PRODUCER-RETAILED MILK—235,000,000 quarts

In food processing Pennsylvania ranks—

FIRST in the manufacture of ICE CREAM—197,876,000 quarts in 1944

FIRST in the manufacture of PHILADELPHIA CREAM CHEESE

FIRST in the manufacture of SAUSAGE

FIRST in the manufacture of SCRAPPLE

FIRST in the number of CARBONATED BEVERAGE and STILL DRINK PLANTS—909

Pennsylvania now has the—

LARGEST Apple processing Plant in the World (Biglerville, Adams County)

LARGEST Grape Juice Plant in the World (North East, Erie County)

LARGEST Package Ice Cream Plant in the World (Harrisburg, Dauphin County)

LARGEST State Farm Show Building in the World under one roof (Harrisburg)

Pennsylvania was the—

FIRST to pass MEAT INSPECTION LAWS

FIRST to establish LIVESTOCK SANITARY SERVICE

Among all Counties on the United States, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania —LEADS all counties in the value of ALL FARM CROPS (non-irrigated) and LEADS all counties in the value of FARM CROPS USED BY FARM HOUSEHOLDS.

State-wide Potato Project Contest

The state-wide potato projects contest results for 1945 have just been announced. Young men studying Vocational Agriculture and conducting potato projects show remarkable results. The outstanding winner over all, in the regular project and in the potato yield contest is Norman Luckenbill of Cressona, Schuylkill County. His project was a real accomplishment, having produced 3620 bushels of Katahdin potatoes on 8 acres of ground. The actual cost to produce Norman's eight acres totaled $1,101.82 while his gross income was over $5,000. This project was owned and operated by Norman who spent 213 hours of his own labor. Strict attention to all details was noticeable throughout the entire project. The GUIDE POST hopes to print a complete story in its next issue.

Potato Project Contest

1	Norman R. Luckenbill, Cressona, Schuylkill County	8 Acres
2	Gerald Porter, Linesville, Crawford County	2 Acres
3	Eddie Denner, Stony Creek, Somerset County	2 Acres
4	Stewart Ramm, Lock Haven, Clinton County	1 Acre
5	Kenneth Blessing, Montgomery, Lycoming County	1 Acre
6	Gordon Hay, Berlin Brothers, Somerset County	1.5 Acre
7	Delos Port, Edinboro, Erie County	8 Acres
8	Kenneth R. Mowry, Roaring Springs, Blair County	2 Acres
9	Alfred Bendick, Bush Valley, Indiana	1 Acre
10	Maurice McWilliams, Tionesta, Forest	1.5 Acre
11	Jos. Zejarac, Jr., Linesville, Crawford County	2 Acres
12	Herbert Walker, Stony Creek, Somerset County	1 Acre
13	Ellwood Mitchell, Cochranton, Crawford	2 Acres
14	Lavern Benedict, Youngsville, Warren County	2 Acres
15	Frank Field, Conneautville, Crawford	4 Acres

Potato Yield Contest

1	Norman Luckenbill, Cressona, Schuylkill Co.	8A—452.5 bu. per Acre
2	Gerald Porter, Linesville, Crawford Co.	2A—385 bu. per Acre
3	Stewart Ramm, Lock Haven, Clinton Co.	1A—356 bu. per Acre
4	Eddie Denner, Stony Creek, Somerset Co.	2A—334 bu. per Acre
5	Kenneth Blessing, Montgomery, Lycoming Co.	1A—320 bu. per Acre
6	Gordon Hay. Berlin Bros., Somerset Co.	1.5A—319 bu. per Acre
7	Kenneth Mowry, Roaring Springs, Blair Co.	2A—315 bu. per Acre
8	Herbert Walker, Stony Creek, Somerset Co.	1A—300 bu. per Acre
9	H. Glen Overdorff, Brush Valley, Indiana Co.	1A—275 bu. per Acre
10	Blair Walker, Stony Creek, Somerset Co.	1A—265 bu. per Acre
11	Delos Port, Edinboro, Erie Co.	8A—253 bu. per Acre
12	Alfred Benedict, Brush Valley, Indiana Co.	1A—250 bu. per Acre
13	Tom Weaver, Cherry Tree, Clearfield Co.	2A—250 bu. per Acre
14	Laverne Benedict, Youngsville, Warren Co.	2A—233 bu. per Acre
15	Elwood Mitchell, Cochranton, Crowford Co.	2A—217.5 bu. per Acre

THE 400 BUSHEL CLUB 1945

The following have made the *400 Bushel Club* Honor Roll to November 15. All reports have not yet been received. Medals will be presented at the Annual Potato Growers' Banquet—January 24—Penn Harris Hotel, Harrisburg.

Name and Address	*County*	*Yield*	*Variety*
George Tallman, Tower City	Schuylkill	449.6 Bu.	Sebago
William Schwartz, Hegins	Schuylkill	528.7 Bu.	Sebago
Robert Schwartz, Hegins	Schuylkill	525.4 Bu.	Sebago
Henry Wedde, Hegins	Schuylkill	504.5 Bu.	Menomines
G. S. Reed, Summit Station	Schuylkill	400.9 Bu.	Katahdin
Clyde Klouser, Hegins	Schuylkill	426.8 Bu.	Katahdin
George A. Shafer, Barnesville	Schuylkill	420.0 Bu.	Nittany
Mahlon S. King, Parkesburg	Chester	431.1 Bu.	Sebago
Paul Lauchnor, Slatington	Lehigh	543.0 Bu.	Katahdin
Harold R. Kuhns, Schnecksville	Lehigh	469.0 Bu.	Katahdin
William H. Ringler, Berlin	Somerset	464.0 Bu.	Mason
Fred W. Ross, Friedens	Somerset	454.5 Bu.	White Rural
Homer P. Koenig, Slatington	Lehigh	530.0 Bu.	Katahdin
William F. Bleiler, Kutztown	Lehigh	418.7 Bu.	Katahdin
Elmer H. Handwerk, Slatington	Lehigh	433.0 Bu.	Katahdin
Clarence W. Weida, New Tripoli	Lehigh	462.8 Bu.	Russet
Ralph M. Bloom, Hooversville	Somerset	439.0 Bu.	Russet
Edward Knepper, Berlin	Somerset	430.5 Bu.	Mason

—Reported by County Agents of respective counties.

That Sensation—DDT

DDT hardly needs an introduction as its reputation, good and bad, has been trumpeted by press and radio. It created quite a sensation among those potato growers who were able to procure some for trial during the past season. DDT did a real good job as a potato insecticide.

Entomologists quite agree that DDT has lived up to advance notices. Results from tests conducted by the research entomologists at Cornell were outstanding. Insect control was better with DDT than with any other insecticide tried heretofore. Yield increases varied from 20 to 130 bushels per acre.

These results are now being summarized and will be available in publications and at extension meetings.

We still have plenty of research to do before recommendations are made with any sort of finality. There will be arguments as to amounts to use, formulations and the number of applications but these points of difference will be ironed out in time. Regardless of these differences in opinion and experiences, DDT looks like a good bet for potato growers.

In the meantime entomologists will keep a weather eye out for the proverbial "monkey wrenches" that may make it dangerous or undesirable to use. The chances of such appear remote, so it seems, at the present writing.

In comparing DDT and Bordeaux with Bordeaux alone, experts at the Pennsylvania State College found most gratifying potato yields in favor of the former. Thirty-three demonstration tests were conducted in 17 Counties throughout the state. The eight varieties used showed varying increased yields but on the average 74 bushel or 27% increase per acre was noted this season. No one variety seemed particularly outstanding. All accepted varieties, early and late responded to the addition of DDT in the Bordeaux mixture. These findings seem to confirm last year's tests.

Plan Against Rural Area Depression

Full Industrial and Business Employment Essential

Secretary of Agriculture Anderson declared recently that full industrial and business employment in the postwar period is essential if another agricultural depression is to be averted.

The secretary made the statement in endorsing the proposed full employment act before the senate banking and currency committee.

"The farmers of this country have a vital interest in the maintenance of full employment. Our agricultural industry is now geared to produce 30 to 35 per cent more than before the war," the secretary said.

"In the years ahead, when we get through the reconversion period of the next 18 to 20 months, one of the major problems facing this country will be that of providing adequate market outlets for the increased volume of agricultural production.

"The maintenance of full employment will be essential if we are to guard against another period of agricultural depression and low farm income. When urban people have jobs and are making good incomes, they buy more clothes which come from wool and cotton; they eat more fruit, meat and vegetables, drink more milk and even smoke more cigarettes than when they are unemployed or working only part time. The wartime experience of the past few years has given us abundant and convincing proof of this."

Anderson, declaring there is a direct relationship between industrial employment and agricultural prosperity, said:

"When unemployment rose to almost 14,000,000 workers in 1932 and 1933, net farm income dropped to less than $3,000,000,000—the lowest level since farm income records were begun in 1910. When unemployment fell to less than a million persons in 1943, net farm income climbed to $11,000,000,000—a record high."

Anderson said that under full employment—that is, if unemployment does not exceed a minimum of about two million workers, including those on vacation and in process of changing jobs—agriculture might reasonably expect a net income of about nine billion dollars in 1950.

Rural Mechanics—

Continued from page eight

and we will talk the prospects over with you.

9. Are There Other Interesting Features About the Course?

Answer—Sure enough. Part of the instruction will be the designing and building of a trailer repair unit which will become part of the equipment for the trainee to be used by him in his work upon the completion of the course. This unit would contain such items as welding outfits, plumbing and electrical kits, or in short, a repair shop on wheels for on-the-spot repairing and servicing of farm machinery and equipment.

— Cooperation —

You have a dollar,
I have a dollar;
We swap.

Now you have my dollar,
And I have your dollar;
We are no better off.

You have an idea,
I have an idea;
We swap.

Now you have two ideas,
And I have two ideas;
Both are richer.

What you gave, you have;
What you got I did not lose—
This is cooperation.

MEMBERSHIPS—NEW AND RENEWALS

Since Last Issue of GUIDE POST

—BLUE LABEL—

George H. Richards, Columbia
H. Y. Coon, Luzerne
Michael J. Byron, Sullivan
Charles Clouser, Lehigh
American Potash Institute, Washington, D. C.
Harry J. Kohler, Luzerne
Ralph Moser, Schuylkill
F. N. Orr, Ohio
Ellis Lichtenwalner, Lehigh
Jesse Stoltzfrea, Chester
W. F. Schwartz, Schuylkill
Robert Schwartz, Schuylkill
Mark A. Hamm, Lehigh
Russell Bartholomew, Monroe
E. Frank Griffith, Schuylkill
L. J. Wagner, Erie
Pelech Brothers, Ohio
Paul Nicosia, New York
Lee Proctor, Erie
Lawrence Munroe, Erie
Russell Elder, Clarion
W. J. Sickel, Philadelphia
Eli Williams, York
H. C. Kearns, York
Dallas W. Hess, Columbia
Q. C. Barnfield, Lycoming
Lawrence Hinkler, Erie
Sick Brothers, Bradford
Smith E. May, Erie
Ira A. Horn, Luzerne
Herbert Williams, Columbia
George D. Miller, Columbia
Lyle Schreffler, Northumberland
Warren Frantz, Lehigh
J. F. Reiman, Somerset
V. C. Johnson, Elk
Godfrey Flockerzi, Venango
Will Scott, Potter
Louis Zundel, Potter
Michael Potchney, Columbia
Isaac Heckler, Montgomery
I. E. Rosenberry, Sullivan
Russell Crago, Indiana
Floyd Hoffman, Clearfield
Paul J. Schneck, Lehigh
J. C. Dreisbach, Columbia
C. E. Friedline, Somerset
Franklin H. Hausman, Lehigh
H. E. Newcomer, Lackawanna
Floyd Dye, Somerset
J. Rex Haver, Clinton
J. S. Champion, Allegheny
T. W. Crittendon, Tioga
Erwin Turner, New York
A. P. Heim, Schuylkill
Aurzie J. Miller, Schuylkill
J. Gerhard & Son, Schuylkill
Chester Heim, Schuylkill

POTATOES—

Cheaper Than Other Foods

Dr. J. H. Kellogg, Battle Creek Sanitarium, Michigan, one of the best food authorities in the world, says:

"One pound of baked potato is equivalent in total food value to:

1 pound of chicken,
5⅞ ounces boiled beef,
2¼ pints of oysters,
4½ pints of beef juice,
1½ pints of whole milk,
8 eggs,
4 pounds boiled cabbage,
5 pounds tomatoes."

If you will compare to-day's market prices with the above list, it will convince you that a great saving can be made by the use of potatoes.

Less Fattening Than Many Other Foods

Potatoes are less fattening than many products which are most commonly considered to be starchy, flesh-producing foods. Professor Elizabeth Whittaker, Home Economics Department of the Michigan State College, says:

"Comparing an eight ounce potato with eight ounces of the following, it is found:

Macaroni is four times more fattening,
Rice—three and one-half times,
Oatmeal—four times,
Chocolate cake—four times,
A piece of pie—three times,
A doughnut—two times."

Be consistent—don't exclude potatoes from your diet in order to retain that slim figure, as long as you eat any of the above.

— LIFE MEMBERSHIPS —

AN EVER-GROWING GROUP

Suggestion — Send Yours "Pronto."

BLUE LABEL

J. A. Donaldson, Venango
Frank L. Dodd, Columbus
Lester J. Lohr, Somerset
John Schrope, Schuylkill
Homer C. Bartter, Ohio
Walter H. Schlegel, Northampton
Clayton Snyder, Lehigh
Haskell Kune, Clearfield
D. E. Lewis, West Virginia
Paul R. Yoder, Chester
M. Paul Whitenight, Columbia
Andy Boleratz, Erie
Foster Blough, Potter
Norman Strohl, Carbon
Wilmer Mensch, Columbia
Karl Uffelman, Dauphin
Walter Gibbons, Lancaster
Lynn Sill, Erie
R. K. Wagner, Westmoreland
V. A. Holtz, Cambria
Joseph Fisher, Somerset
Oscar Lauger, Warren
W. R. Campbell, West Virginia
A. J. Troyer, Ohio
A. C. Harwood, Erie
Harvey S. Lute, Cambria
George D. Henninger, Northampton
William W. Hayes, Lycoming
M. P. Whitenight, Columbia
Leon Epler, Northumberland
R. B. Stutzman, Indiana
E. S. Grimm, Franklin
McPherson Bros., York
Harry Stockdale, Ohio
Elvin R. Huntsinger, Schuylkill
Dr. A. S. Romberger, Illinois
Harry Gallant, Crawford
Ralph Miller, Lehigh
W. C. Lefosky, Warren
Ivan Miller, Erie
Alfred Stauffer, Chester
Harold Rarig, Columbia
Ralph Hertzler, Chester
Roy R. Hess, Columbia
Ralph A. Thompson, New York
Francis Yahner, Cambria
Edgar R. Spory, Somerset
Gust Gorka, Erie
Omar Umble, Chester
A. J. Henninger, Lehigh
Barrie Wilson, Erie
Mervin Hanes, York
Robert H. Henninger, Northampton
Harold J. Henninger, Lehigh
R. N. Benjamin, Dauphin
Roy B. Hoober, Lancaster
Harry Long, Warren
Joseph M. Schwabenbauer, Elk
Douglas Fisher, Potter
Mathias C. Whitenight, Columbia
Harry Peterson, Crawford
John J. Petro, Jr., Columbia
Harvey Lute, Indiana
R. K. Wagner, Indiana
Ed. Fisher, Potter
J. K. Mast, Lancaster
Rollin E. Wright, Potter
Paul Cybulski, Luzerne
Harry Stine, Northumberland
Alvin Sutliff, Columbia
A. S. Yoder, Columbia
Robert Getz, Carbon
Robert Miller, Columbia
Orville Hufnagel, Columbia
Daniel Lindermuth, Columbia
Russell Billig, Northumberland
Charles A. Yoder, Northumberland
Paul R. LeVan, Columbia
Anthony Abrasczinskas, Columbia
Louis E. Thompson, Erie
P. Daniel Frantz, Lehigh
Robert W. Harwood, Erie
Fred C. Oswald, Lehigh
Willard H. Geiger, Lehigh
Geo. W. Tallman, Schuylkill
Peter E. Daugherty, Lycoming
Walter Gibbons, Cambria Co.
Harold Welsh, Luzerne Co.

FARQUHAR IRON AGE YORK, PA.

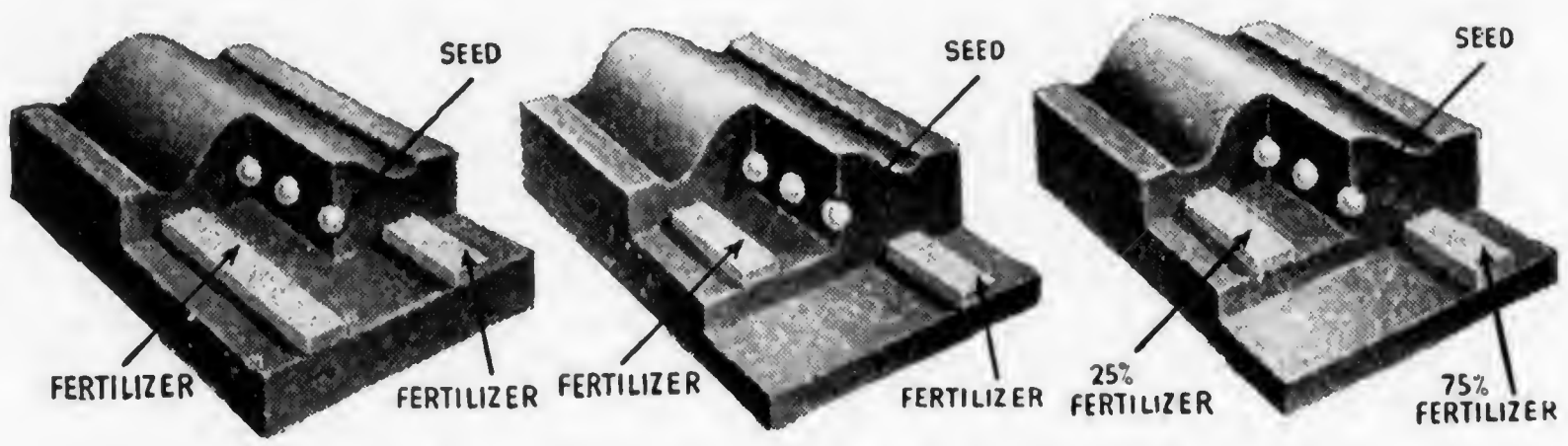
World's Largest Selling

POTATO PLANTER

Farquhar Iron Age Two Row High-Speed Automatic Potato Planter

5 REASONS WHY:

1. Iron Age exclusive feed and placement mechanism with the multi-way adjustable picker wheel, assures automatic and accurate planting.
2. Band-Way fertilizer placement scientifically places fertilizer where it is most needed for all types of soil conditions.
3. Flexibility in planting is obtained by choice of five **different types of** opening plows, three sizes of covering discs, and five different planting shoes.
4. Strength and dependability are built into every Iron Age planter . . . the result of more than fifty years of research and strenuous field tests.
5. Iron Age factory trained experts work closely with both dealer and farmer. Adequate stocks of replacement parts eliminate costly delay in event of breakdown.



ONLY IRON AGE HAS BAND-WAY

Illustrated above are the three methods used in Band-Way planting to assure scientific placement of fertilizer where it is needed, when it is needed.

1. STANDARD BAND-WAY: Places fertilizer in continuous bands of **equal amounts** on each side and slightly below seed.
2. HI-LO BAND-WAY: Places fertilizer in bands of equal amounts; on one side slightly below, on other side much deeper.
3. HI-LO UNEQUAL BAND: Same as Hi-Lo Band-Way except upper band contains 25% and lower band 75% of the plant food.

This proven method of fertilizer placement is the adopted standard of thousands of leading growers all over the world. Write today for catalog.

Plant and Spray the IRON AGE Way

A.B.FARQUHAR COMPANY, YORK, PA.

2202 Duke Street **York, Pennsylvania**

End of Volume

End of Title

END OF REEL
PLEASE
REWIND